ONINAGI
1
AKIRA ISHIDA

AKIRA ISHIDA

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AKIRA ISHIDA

I'M NANAMI KUSHIMIYA! FIFTEEN YEARS OLD AND IN THE SPRING-TIME OF YOUTH!
I'M FULL OF HOPES AND DREAMS AFTER STARTING HIGH SCHOOL THIS SPRING!
AND I'M FLOATING ON CLOUD NINE 'COS I'M AT THE SAME SCHOOL AS SANJOUIN-SENPAI, THE LOVE OF MY LIFE SINCE JUNIOR HIGH!
I'M DEFINITELY GOING TO GET TO KNOW HIM BETTER OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS...
(RUSTLE)
SEE YA!
WHAT HEART-RACING THINGS LIE IN WAIT FOR ME...? EVERY DAY IS JUST SO EXCITING!

ACT ONE.
HUH?
YOU! YOU'RE A DEMON, AREN'T YOU!?

ACT ONE.
YOU! YOU'RE A DEMON, AREN'T YOU!?

HUH?

I AM THE FIFTEENTH GENERATION HEIR TO THE ONIGOROSHI HOUSE.
TOMOTAKA ONIGORO-SHI!
SHIN (BAM).
YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO FOOL EVERYONE ELSE, BUT YOU CAN'T FOOL ME.
SO JUST GIVE IT UP AND SHOW ME YOUR TRUE FORM...
HEH...
WAIT!!
...SO I CAN PUT YOU OUT OF YOUR MIS-ERY!
DON (JAB)

UWAAH! A SUDDEN ENCOUNTER WITH A WEIRDO!!

IS IT 'COS THE WEATHER'S GOTTEN WARMER LATELY?

DA DA DA DA DA DA DA DA DA DA DA (DASH)

IF I GET TOO CLOSE TO WEIRDOS LIKE THAT, MY ROSY SPRING-TIME LIFE'LL BE RUINED!

TA (DASH)

SIGN: SAKURA CHILDREN'S PARK

HEE!!

HEE!!

HEE!!

AH!

FU (FLUTTER)

THAT'S RIGHT, THERE WAS A BIG CHERRY BLOSSOM TREE HERE AT THIS PARK...

DON'T MAKE THIS HARDER THAN IT HAS TO BE.
SO THIS YOUR LAIR?
MAKES SENSE... THE SMELL OF TAINT IS STRONG HERE.
..... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ...?
FIVE PEOPLE HAVE GONE MISSING IN THE AREA THIS YEAR.

THEIR AGES AND BACKGROUNDS... ARE ALL COMPLETELY DIFFERENT, AND THE POLICE DETERMINED THAT THEY'RE UNRELATED, BUT...
...THE DIVINE ENFORCERS CONFIRMED A DEMONIC PRESENCE.
ZA (RUSTLE)
AND THEY DISPATCHED A SLAYER.
ZA
ZA
IN OTHER WORDS, ME.
SO SURRENDER NOW, DEMON.
ZA
WA—
OKAY, I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!
PI (BEEP)
1621 HOURS. HAVE CONFIRMED THE PRESENCE OF THE ANOMALY.
SLAYER, TOMOTAKA ONIGOROSHI.
WILL NOW APPREHEND THE HUMANOID-FORM DEMON.
ZA
SHURY (SLIDE)

IT'S TIME.
RISE, ONINAGI.
KIIIN (SHEEEN)

!?
PARI... (ZAP...)
I'VE SEALED OFF THIS PARK WITH A BARRIER.
IT'S NO USE.
BA (DASH)
HA (GASP)
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO GET OUT OR IN.
IF YOU WANT OUT, YOU'LL HAVE TO DEFEAT ME FIRST.
NO WAY!
I—
FINE.
I REALLY HAVE NO CLUE WH—
THEN ...
... DIE AS YOU ARE.
NOW... SHOW YOURSELF...
...OR DO YOU WANT TO DIE WITHOUT A FIGHT?

SHUGA
(SLICE)

WHY WON'T YOU SHOW YOUR TRUE FORM!?

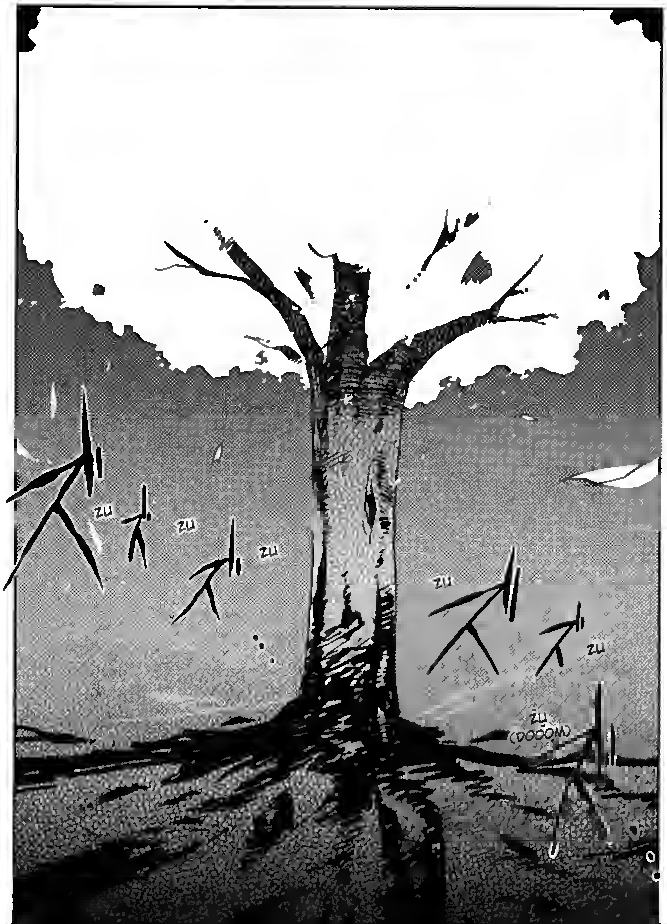
GIRL...
(GRIT...)

REALLY ?
YES, RE-ALLY!
I'M... TELLING YOU...
...I REALLY ...
...HAVE NO IDEA... WHAT'S GOING ON...
HETA... (FLOP...)
TCH!
FINE, I'LL TRUST YOU.
SORRY FOR COMING AT YOU WITH A SWORD.
HO... (WHEW...)
MY HUNCH WAS OFF... THIS IS A FIRST.
I NEARLY DIED 'COS OF A HUNCH !?
FUU (SIGH)
DON'T GET ME WRONG. I TOLD YOU THIS WAS A FIRST.
MY INSTINCTS HAVE NEVER BEEN WRONG, EVER.
NOT EVEN ...
...ONCE.
ZOKU... (CHILL...)

B-BUT EVEN THAT INSTINCT OF YOURS MANAGED TO MESS UP, SO STOP RUSHING INTO THINGS, OKAY!?
PON (PAT)
PAN (PAT)

!
BA (TURN)

ONINAGI IS REACTING...
RIII (RI...TING)


ZU
ZU
ZU
ZU
ZU
ZU (DODOD)

...BUT...NOT TO HER...
HEY... ARE YOU LIS-TEN-ING?

ANYWAY, WHAT'S THIS DEMON STUFF ABOUT?
YOU'LL SEE SOON ENOUGH.
HUH?
RUH
SO THIS WAS THE TRUE CULPRIT BEHIND THE DISAPPEAR-ANCES, HM?
CAN YOU SEE IT? THE TAINT IS COLLECTING AND SOLIDIFY-ING AROUND THAT TREE.
ZU...
ZU
ZU
ZU
WH... WHAT IS THAT?
AN EVIL PRESENCE... THE TAINT'S CONVERGING ON THAT CHERRY BLOSSOM TREE AND BECOMING A PHYSICAL ENTITY.

ZA
ZA
ZA (RUSTLE)
THIS IS WHAT WE CALL A DEMON...
OOOO
...THE ENEMY WE SLAYERS BATTLE
OOO (ROOOAR)
TO PUT IT SIMPLY, THEY'RE MON-STERS.
THIS ONE LOOKS LIKE IT PHYSICALLY MANIFESTED AFTER BEING HIT WITH A DEMONIC AURA.

GET BACK. IT'S DAN-GER-OUS.
POI (TOSS)
ポイ
HUH? WHAT?
1628 HOURS.
SLAYER, TOMOTAKA ONIGO-ROSHI.
BYUA (WHIP)
SFX: PI (BEEP)
STAND-BY MODE... PRESENCE OF A GRADE TWO DEMON CONFIRMED.
DO (THUD)
DO
DO
DO
PROCEED-ING WITH TERMINA-TION.

KYAAAH!!
GO (WHOOSH)
SHE... PRO-TECTED ME.
AAH!!
GO (THUMP)
...HUH?
GA (THUNK)
POOOOO (GLOOOW)
WHAT...

HYU (WHOOSH)
DO (THUD)
DAN (SLAM)

WATCH OUT!
HYU (FLING)
JEWEL OF YAESU, DRIVE AWAY THE TAINT WITH YOUR LIGHT.
BYUUU (VWOOSH)
VUUM (FWOOM)

ONI-NAGI.
CUT DOWN THIS EVIL FILTH.
GO (FLING)

GOU (BURN)
GOOO (BURN)
GOOO (BURN)
WHAT!?
DO (WHAM)
ZU... (GLITHER...)
W...OW...

DAMMIT...! THE MAIN BODY WAS UNDER-GROUND...
BAGA (GAPE)
I'VE GOT TO DODGE THIS... OR ELSE I'M IN DEEP TROUBLE ...!!
KYUUU (GLOOOW)
...!!
!!
KA (FLASH)
BUT SHE'S BE-HIND ME ...!!

SHUUUUUU (FWOOO)
DID SHE SHIELD ME...?
...HUH?
NO!!
BYUOO (WHIP)
KUH...

DO
DO
(SHUNK)
DOSHU
(VWISH)
PASHI
(THWAP)
……

GOUOOOOOO
(BURN)
BOU
(WOW)
WH...AT?
WHAT...
ARE YOU
...?

SHE... PROTECTED ME...
I'VE GOT TO SAVE ...!?
!?
LOOK OUT!
DO
DO (THUD)
HUH?

HUH?
GYAAAAAAAAAAH...
HUH?
ACT TWO.

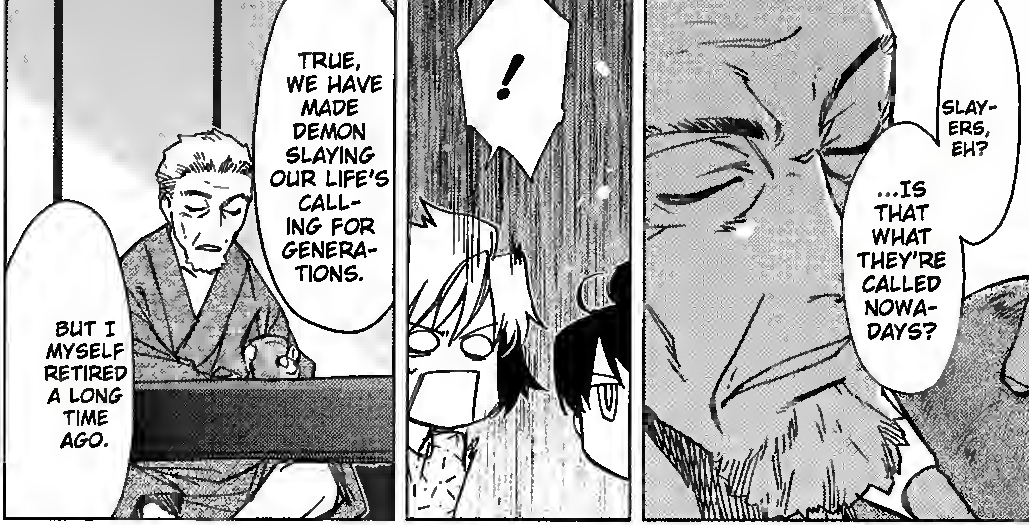
GARA (RATTLE)
HEY.
FINALLY AWAKE, HUH?
OH, JUST A DREAM. ♪
GYAAAAH!
HOW DO YOU FEEL? DOES YOUR BODY HURT ANY-WHERE ...?
?

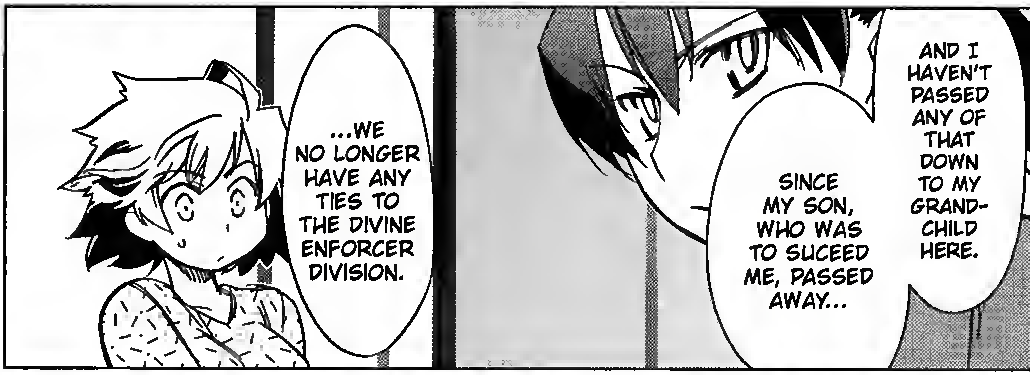
.....
.....
HEEEY, THE TEA'S HOT 'N' READY!
GARA (RATTLE)
.....
JIII (STAARE)
WHAT IS THIS SUFFOCATING ATMOSPHERE?

NANAMI, YOU NEED TO TREASURE YOUR FRIENDS, YA HEAR.
SHE'S NOT MY FRIEND, GRANDPA.
KACHA (TAP)
ONI-GORO-SHI-SAN CARRIED YOU ALL THE WAY BACK HOME WHILE YOU WERE UNCON-SCIOUS, SEE?
SO UNGRATEFUL.
EH ...
TH-THANKS ...
NO THANKS NECES-SARY.
MORE IMPOR-TANTLY ...
...YOU'D BETTER EXPLAIN WHAT THE HECK YOU ARE!
DON (BAM)

THAT POWER YOU DISPLAYED BACK THERE ...
IT WAS CLEARLY... DEMONIC...

BUT ASIDE FROM THAT MOMENT... EVEN NOW, I CAN'T SENSE ANY TAINT EMANATING FROM YOU.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
AND THE TALISMANS SCATTERED AROUND THIS HOUSE...
YOU WOULD ONLY DO THAT IF YOU KNEW ABOUT THE TAINT.
THIS GIRL SEEMS TO KNOW NOTHING OF THIS, BUT...
...THOSE OF THIS HOUSE ARE SLAYERS OF THE DIVINE ENFORCER DIVISION.
AM I WRONG, ELDER?
AHA-HA... THAT'S JUST SILLY...
...RIGHT, GRANDPA?


TRUE, WE HAVE MADE DEMON SLAYING OUR LIFE'S CALLING FOR GENERATIONS.
BUT I MYSELF RETIRED A LONG TIME AGO.
!
SLAYERS, EH?
...IS THAT WHAT THEY'RE CALLED NOWADAYS?


...WE NO LONGER HAVE ANY TIES TO THE DIVINE ENFORCER DIVISION.
SINCE MY SON, WHO WAS TO SUCEED ME, PASSED AWAY...
AND I HAVEN'T PASSED ANY OF THAT DOWN TO MY GRANDCHILD HERE.

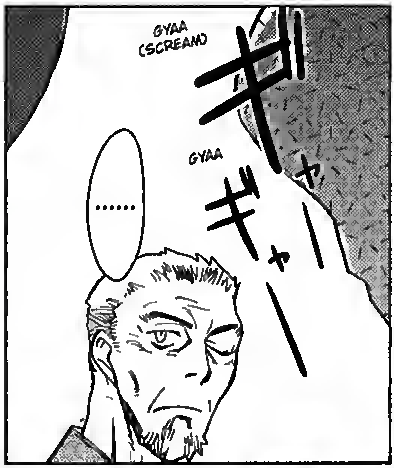
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE HEARD OF THIS POWER YOU SAY NANAMI SHOWED.
NO...FOR GENERATIONS, WE WORKED FAITHFULLY UNDER THE DIVINE ENFORCERS.
AND THAT CONNECTION CEASED TO EXIST ALONG WITH MY SON.
BUT THEN WHAT ABOUT THE POWER THIS GIRL EXHIBITED?
ARE ALL YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS LIKE THIS?

BUT THAT'S NOT TO SAY THAT I DIDN'T HAVE ANY INKLING ABOUT IT.
LONG AGO ONE OF OUR ANCESTORS WAS COMMISSIONED TO ERADICATE A DEMON THAT HAD TAKEN UP RESIDENCE ON A CERTAIN MYSTICAL MOUNTAIN...
HE HACKED AND SLASHED THROUGH THE MANY LOWER-LEVEL MONSTERS THAT HAD GATHERED NEAR IT...
...AND MADE HIS WAY TOWARD THE GREAT DEMON !!
SO THIS IS THE DEMON'S LAIR...
WHOA!
AH!

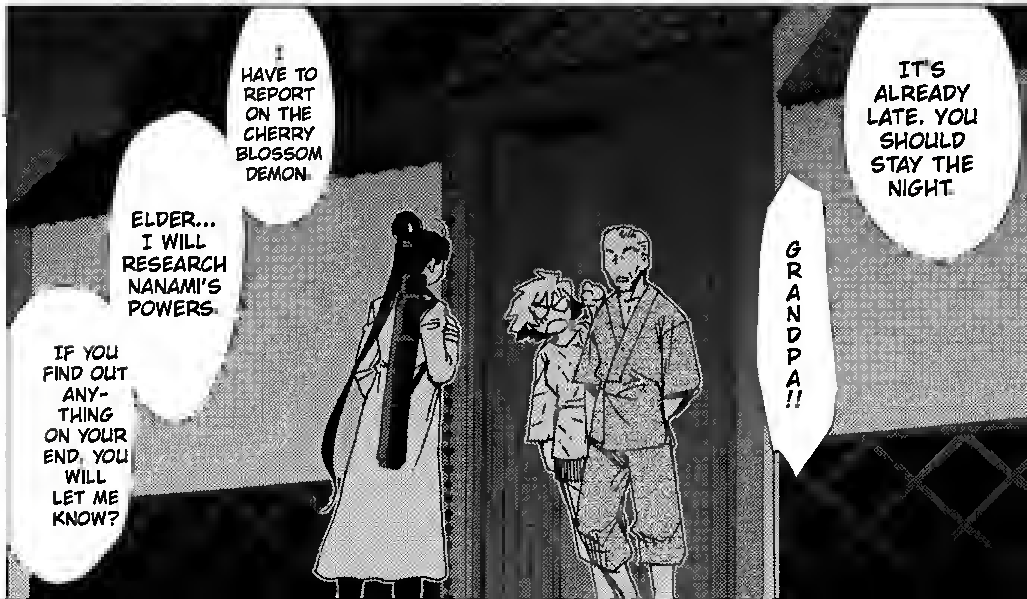
MARRY ME!!
TO THEIR SURPRISE, THE DEMON WHO BIRTHED THE CHILD LOST HER POWER AND BECAME HUMAN.
...AND SOON A CHILD WAS BORN TO THE COUPLE.
OUR ANCESTOR, WHO HAD FALLEN MADLY IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT WITH THE BEAUTIFUL DEMON, TOOK HER AS HIS WIFE...
SO EVER SINCE THEN, AS A SPECIAL DEMON SUPPRESSING RITE, THE KUSHIMIYA FAMILY HAS WELCOMED DEMONS AS BRIDES...

I NEVER TOLD YOU.
WHAT KIND OF STORY IS THAT!? I'VE NEVER HEARD IT BEFORE!
NOT!!
...AND ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL!
IN OTHER WORDS...THAT ANCESTOR'S SEALED POWER HAS NOW MANIFESTED ITSELF IN THIS GIRL...?
APPAR-ENTLY.
BUT WHY?
THAT I DON'T KNOW.
BUT THIS GIRL ...
AAAGH!!
HUH?
MY PROPER NAME'S NANAMI, YOU KNOW.
...I SEE.
SORRY, NANAMI... OR WHAT-EVER.
WHAT?
YOU KEEP SAYING, "GIRL THIS" AND "GIRL THAT"...IT'S ANNOYING!

SO THAT MEANS THAT MY FIRST INSTINCT WAS RIGHT AFTER ALL.
DIDN'T I TELL YOU THAT I'VE NEVER BEEN WRONG BEFORE...?
GUH... (GRIND...)


GYAA (SCREAM)
GYAA
.....

BUT I DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT—
WHETHER YOU'RE AWARE OF IT OR NOT, YOUR POWERS ARE DANGER-OUS.

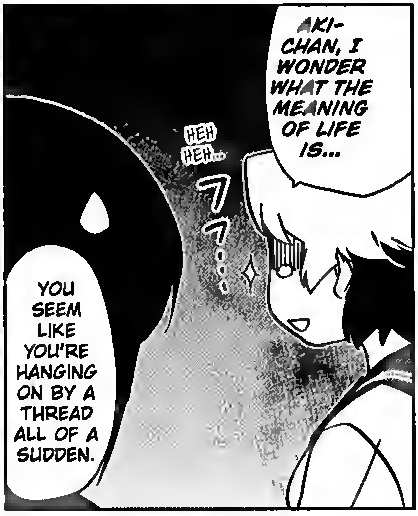

I HAVE TO REPORT ON THE CHERRY BLOSSOM DEMON.
ELDER... I WILL RESEARCH NANAMI'S POWERS.
IF YOU FIND OUT ANY-THING ON YOUR END, YOU WILL LET ME KNOW?
IT'S ALREADY LATE. YOU SHOULD STAY THE NIGHT.
GRANDPA!!

NA-NAMI.
IF I FIND OUT THAT YOUR POWERS REALLY ARE DAN-GEROUS...
...I'LL KILL YOU MY-SELF.
GOT IT?
NNBEEH (NYAAH)
AT THE SAME LOCA-TION?
WAS IT NOT THE SAME TYPE OF DEMON?
APPAR-ENTLY, IT WAS A DIF-FERENT KIND.
KATSUUN
KATSUUN
A REPORT HAS BEEN FILED BY THE SLAYER TOMOTAKA ONIGOROSHI ON THE MATTER OF THE TARGET DEMON.
ONIGO-ROSHI... AH, HER.
KATSUUN
WHAT WORRIES ME IS THE FACT THAT THE PRESENCE OF THIS NEW DEMON DISAPPEARED INSTANTA-NEOUSLY.
HMM...
SHOULD WE HAVE ONIGO-ROSHI FOLLOW UP ON THIS AS WELL?
NO... WE HAVE A SLAYER NEAR-BY. WE'LL HAVE THEM LOOK INTO IT.

CHUN (CHIRP)
CHUN
=SIGH=
YESTERDAY WAS A NIGHTMARE...
MY BLOSSOMING DAYS OF YOUTH ARE SLIPPING AWAY...
MORNING, NANAMI.
...MORNING...
PLUS WITH GRANDPA BEING GRANDPA, I HAD TO GO THROUGH ALL THAT TALK ABOUT PURIFICATION AND ALL THOSE COLD BATHS...
NO PEEKING, GRANDPA, YOU PERVERT!!
AND GEEZ, WHAT'S UP WITH THAT TOMOTAKA GIRL ...?
FURA (TOTTER)
FURA

?
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU DON'T LOOK SO GOOD.
AHA-HA...
WELL, STUFF HAPPENS, YOU KNOW.

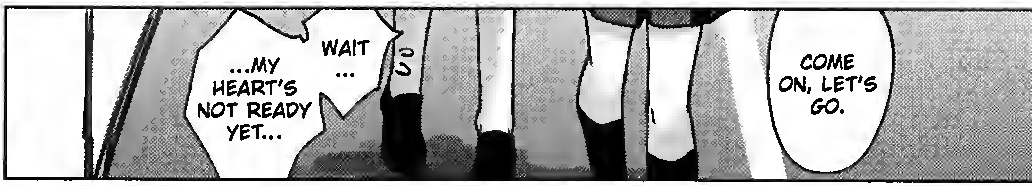
OH.
SAN-JOUIN-SENPAI.
WHAT? ♡
WHERE? WHERE?
... SHEESH.
GABA (TURN)


AKI-CHAN, I WONDER WHAT THE MEANING OF LIFE IS...
HEH HEH...
YOU SEEM LIKE YOU'RE HANGING ON BY A THREAD ALL OF A SUDDEN.

OVER THERE, BY THE SCHOOL GATES ...
OH, RIGHT. SENPAI'S THE REGULATORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN.
HE LOOKS SO HAND-SOME TODAY TOO.
YO
MORNING!
YEAH, HE IS PRETTY COOL.

WH-WHAT SHOULD I DO, AKI-CHAN!?
DO I LOOK WEIRD AT ALL?
DON'T WORRY, YOU'RE THE USUAL NANAMI.
WATA
WATA (FLUSTERED)

=SIGH=
TO BE ABLE TO MEET HIM FIRST THING... TODAY'S A GOOD DAY.
...


WAIT ...
...MY HEART'S NOT READY YET...
COME ON, LET'S GO.

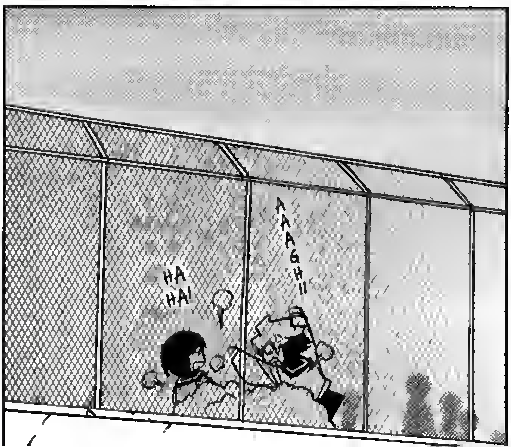
GO-GO—!
GOOD DAY TO YOU.
GOOD MORN-IIIING!
MORNING!!

YOU HAD SOMETHING ON YOUR SHIRT. SEE?
EH!?
PARDON ME.
Y-YES, NEAR THE PARK.
THE ONES AT SCHOOL ALREADY DROPPED THEIR PETALS.
A CHERRY BLOSSOM PETAL.
SO THEY'RE STILL BLOOMING SOMEWHERE?
.....
KYA (SQUEAL)
KYA

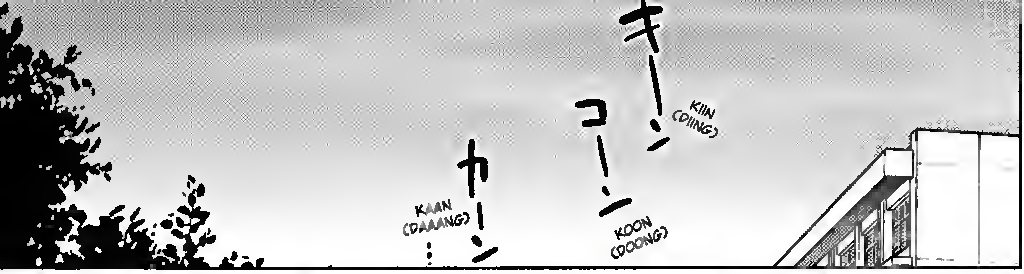
I NEED TO HAVE MORE ROSE-TINTED DAYS LIKE THIS
SUCH A HAPPY MORNING ...
♡SIGH♡

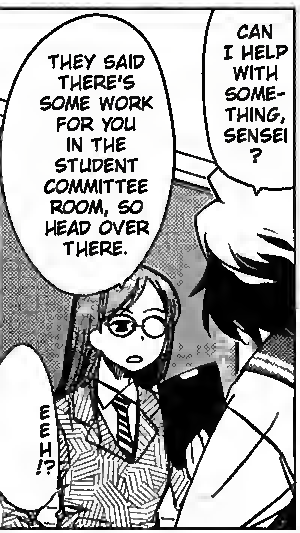
WE'VE HARDLY EVEN TALKED!
...I CAN'T DO THAT!
I...
IF YOU LIKE HIM THAT MUCH, JUST TELL HIM.

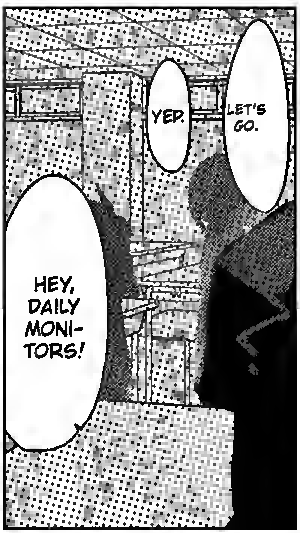
AND WHAT WOULD BE THE POINT IN THAT?
I COULD JUST DIE RIGHT NOW... ♡


HA HA!
AAAGH!!

I'M JOKING.
EH!? ♡
NO WAY!
OH!
GREAT TIMING, THERE HE IS...






SIGN. WEEKLY BULLETIN...

THANKS FOR ASSEMBLING, FIRST-YEAR MONITORS.
I KNOW THIS MIGHT SEEM LIKE BUSY WORK, BUT I'D LIKE TO HAVE THESE WEEKLY REGULATION BULLETINS POSTED THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL.

AH!
YES!! ME!!
...AND THAT LEAVES CLASS E...
HUH?
DID GOD BLESS ME WITH A SENPAI DAY TODAY OR SOMETHING!?
OKAY, SO CLASSES A AND B...
EH?
WE DON'T HAVE SOMEONE FOR YOU TO PAIR UP WITH, SO YOU CAN COME WITH ME!
I'M KAZUTO SANJOUIN, CHAIRMAN OF THE REGULATORY COMMITTEE. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
UM, N-NANAMI KUSHIMIYA!!
KUSHIMIYA-SAN, EH...? DID YOU GO TO JOUHOKU FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL?
YES!
ME TOO.
I KNEW I RECOGNIZED YOU.

HAVE YOU GOTTEN USED TO THIS SCHOOL?
AH... WELL, PRETTY MUCH...
THIS WAY.
GACHA (KACHA)
EH?
IT'S FASTER GOING THIS WAY TO GET TO BUILDING 2.
OHH!!
.....
SENPAI REALLY IS A NICE GUY...
!?
VUN (RISE)

THAT ONI-GOROSHI PERSON... DID THIS YESTER-DAY...
THIS IS ...!?
OOOOO (CRACKLE)
KUSHIMIYA-SAN, I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU A QUESTION.
I JUST MADE IT SO THAT WE ARE NOT INTER-RUPTED.
THIS MIGHT SEEM A BIT SUDDEN, BUT I NEED YOU TO ANSWER ME.
EH...? SENPAI ...?
... THOUGH NOT TO A GREAT EXTENT, IT HAS BEEN TAINTED.
WHERE DID THIS COME FROM?
FROM THE NEARBY PARK ...
SENPAI... ARE YOU, BY CHANCE... ONE OF THOSE ENFORCERS OR SOME-THING...?
YOU KNOW ABOUT THE DIVINE EN-FORC-ERS?
THIS CHERRY BLOS-SOM PETAL ...
PI (PWIP)

MAYBE I CAN LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT THE OTHER DEMON BY ASKING THIS ONE HERE...
I SEE... SO THIS PETAL IS FROM THE DEMON THAT WAS DISPATCHED YESTERDAY.
I AM A MEMBER OF THE DIVINE ENFORCERS... SLAYER SECOND CLASS.
GOOD. THEN THIS WILL BE QUICK.
THE OTHER... DEMON?
KYU (TUG)
YEAH.
THE DEMON THAT WAS USING THIS CHERRY BLOSSOM TREE AS ITS MAIN BODY WAS DEFEATED YESTERDAY.
!!
KREE... KREE...
GI!! ... KI!! ...
!
VU... (VWOM...?)
I HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO APPREHEND THE OTHER DEMON THAT TRIPPED THE SENSORS THAT NIGHT.

EEP...
NOT TO WORRY. I CONTROL THIS DEMONIC FAMILAR.
!
HAAH...
HAAH...
DOKUN... (BADUM...)
ARE YOU...?
ZA (RUSTLE)
!
THE BARRIER...?
ZA
STOP RIGHT THERE.
THAT'S MY QUARRY.

鬼薙
オニナギ
1
ONINAGI
AKIRA ISHIDA

I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU'D JUST BACK DOWN.
I HAVE MY REASONS.
I HAD DIBS ON HER FIRST.
...ONE OF US?
WHY ARE YOU STOPPING ME?
ARE YOU...
UGH...
ZA
HAAH...
ZA... (RUSTLE...)
LOOKS LIKE I HIT THE BULLSEYE.
SHE IS THE DEMON THAT WAS SENSED HERE...AND THUS MY TARGET.
WHO ARE YOU?
GO (CRACKLE)
GO
GO
GO
GO

I'M TELLING YOU ONE MORE TIME
STAND DOWN FROM THIS
SLAYER FIRST CLASS FIFTEENTH GENERATION HEIR TO THE ONI-GOROSHI HOUSE ...
... TOMO-TAKA ONIGO-ROSHI.
ACT THREE.

A PLEASURE.
I AM SLAYER SECOND CLASS KAZUTO SANJOUIN.
YOU DO NOT HAVE DIRECT ORDERS FROM THE DIVINE ENFORCERS, DO YOU?
IF THAT IS THE CASE, MY SANCTIONED MISSION TAKES PRIORITY.

ZUZU...
(SHHP...)
BUT IF YOU INSIST ON FORCING THE ISSUE ...
...I WILL BE REQUIRED TO REMOVE YOU BY VIOLENCE.

HEH.
AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU WERE A POLITE LITTLE GOODY TWO-SHOES... BUT IT SEEMS YOU SPEAK MY LANGUAGE.
PLUS, I WAS PLANNING ON IT...

...FROM THE VERY BEGIN-NING!
DOO (BOOOM)
SFX: HYUKAKAKA (HWIK HWIK HWIK)
TCH!
BA (VWAH)
!?
GA-KUN (JERK)
SHU (FWSH)
SYUOO (VWOOSH)
SHIN (PIING)

SHUU (FSHW)
DOKAKAKA (DKKK)
!
BYU (VWSH)
HYUOOO (WHOOSH)
...SHIT.
I THOUGHT I DODGED THEM ALL...
!?
ZUKIN (STING)
WHA !?
ZUZO... (SHHP...)
ZU
ZU

(BYUGO (VWOOOM)
DO
DO
GAKA (WHACK)
DO (THUD)
GO (THUD)
SFX: KA (SHUNK) KA KA
I DO APOLOGIZE.
I DO NOT WISH TO HURT YOU.
I AIMED FOR YOUR PRESSURE POINTS TO HALT YOUR MOVEMENTS, BUT...
I DID NOT THINK YOU WOULD LAST THIS LONG.
...
HFF!!
HFF!!
HFF!!
HFF!!

I CAN SHOOT THESE NEEDLES AT MY TARGET ONE BY ONE...
...MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE TO DODGE THEM ALL.
AND I WILL NEVER RUN OUT OF AMMUNITION...
...FOR NO PLACE ON EARTH LACKS TAINT.
THESE CEREMONIAL NEEDLES ARE CREATED BY COLLECTING TAINTED ENERGY...
IN OTHER WORDS, EACH AND EVERY NEEDLE IS AN INFINITESIMALLY SMALL DEMON.
KYU (CLENCH)

*DEMONIC FAMILIAR: A DEMON CONTROLLED AND USED BY THE WIELDER.

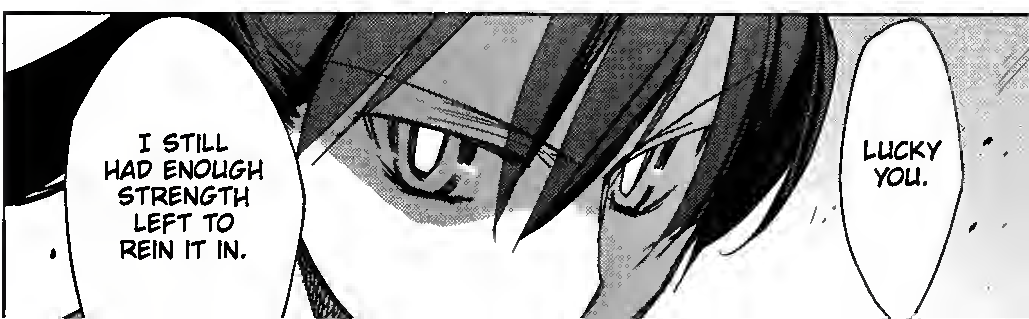
PLEASE WITHDRAW HERE.
AT THIS POINT, I WILL KEEP YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THIS MATTER A SECRET.
.....
I GET IT NOW.
SO THOSE WERE CAUSING THE CHANGES IN ENERGY I SENSED...
A TYPE OF DEMONIC FAMILIAR, RIGHT?
DAMN YOU FOR USING SOMETHING SO OBNOXIOUS.

YOU ACTUALLY HAVE THE GALL TO TELL ME TO TAKE A LOSS AND RUN AWAY WITH MY TAIL BETWEEN MY LEGS?
TALKING DOWN TO ME, HMM...?
PIKU.. (TWITCH...)
THEN LET ME GIVE YOU A WARNING TOO.
I'M NOT GOING TO HOLD BACK.
IF YOU WANT TO GO HOME IN ONE PIECE, YOU'D BETTER DISAP-PEAR RIGHT NOW.

I BELIEVE THAT THE RESULT OF OUR FIGHT IS A FORE-GONE CON-CLUSION ...
DO YOU INTEND TO CONTINUE THIS IM-POSSIBLE STRUGGLE?
.....
RISE ...
...ONI-NAGI.
III... (SHEEE...)
!
KIIIN (SCREEE...
...WELL, IT'S TOO LATE NOW.
YOU'LL REGRET YOUR DECISION.

A LITTLE PSEUDO-DEMON TOY LIKE YOURS ISN'T EVEN WORTH ONINAGI'S ATTENTION.
DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE ONINAGI.
JUST BY COMING IN CONTACT WITH THE AURAL ENERGY... MY NEEDLES ARE...
!!
JI (JJSSW)
JI
BAHYUHYU (VWPWP)
KUH ...!!
SO FAST ...
GO (GWOW)
JYU... (SIZZLE...)

ONI-GOROSHI-STYLE SPECIAL ATTACK...
...NINTH ATTACK!


I STILL HAD ENOUGH STRENGTH LEFT TO REIN IT IN.
LUCKY YOU.

THIS IS WHAT YOU CONSIDER REINED IN...?
STOP WHINING.
GEHO (COUGH)
NOW ...
UMM ...
NA-NAMI?
...
YOU OKAY?
I WONDER WHY ...
...JUST LOOKING AT HIM ...
...ANNOYS ME.
IT PISSES ME OFF.
AH.
"I..."
"...WAS KILLED BY HIM, WASN'T I?"
!?
HYU...GO (VWOOSH)
GUSHA (CRUSH)

A... HA!
AHA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA !!!
YESSS!!
THAT FELT FAN-TAS-TIC!!

HUH ...?
SHE SEEMS DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE.
!?
BE-FORE ...?
BYUOOOO (WHOOOOH)
I SAW HER POWER FOR THE FIRST TIME THE OTHER DAY.
SHE BURNED THE DEMON TO NOTHING IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE. THEN PASSED OUT...
BURNED ...? WITH FLAMES ...?
BUT ...
YEAH.
IT'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE "WIND" THAT SHE'S USING NOW.
AND... SHE'S DIFFER-ENT.
IS THAT REALLY NANAMI ...?

HEY, NANA-MI!!
DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM!?
!!!
?
WHO ARE YOU?
WHEN YOU SAY, "NANA-MI," DO YOU MEAN ME?
HM...
NA-NAMI.
NA-NAMI, HUH?
NOT BAD.
OKAY, SO LET'S SAY I'M NANAMI.
YOU ARE?
!
AH!
AAAH!!
BYUGOOO (VGSHHVWOOH)
BYUO, (VWPSW)

I SEE... THE TWO OF YOU ARE...
...MY ENEMIES!!
GWOOOOMO
KUH!
MISSED...
HEY!
YOU!
!!
BYUGOOO

GAGOOO (GKKVWOOOW)
BYUGAGOGOOO (VWSHAGWOOOW)
GO AWAY!!
I'LL BLAST YOU!!
DIE!!
GOGA (GK)
SORRY!!
YOU IDIOT!
WHAT THE HELL DID YOU DO THAT FOR!?
GAGAGAGA (GGGOOOOW)
IF THIS KEEPS UP, THE BARRIER DOES NOT LOOK LIKE IT WILL HOLD MUCH LONGER.
AND WHOSE FAULT IS THAT?
ZUKIN (STING...)
ズキン…
ZUKIN
.....

BYUGAGOGOOO (WISHAGWOOOH)
GO AWAY!!
I'LL BLAST YOU!!
DIE!!
GOGA (OK?)
SORRY!!
YOU IDIOT!
WHAT THE HELL DID YOU DO THAT FOR!?
GAGAGAGA (GGGOOOOH)

GAGOOO (GKKYHOOOHD
IF THIS KEEPS UP, THE BARRIER DOES NOT LOOK LIKE IT WILL HOLD MUCH LONGER.
AND WHOSE FAULT IS THAT?
ZUKIN (STING...)
ズキン…
ZUKIN
……

YES, I UNDER-STAND.
NO KILLING BLOWS.
HEY. I'LL SAY THIS ONCE ...
SHUUU (FSHHH)
LET'S DO THIS.
WE'VE GOT TO AT LEAST STOP HER FOR NOW.
YES.
WE WILL HAVE TO DO THIS... TO-GETH-ER.

TA (DASH)
ZAHYU (SLASH)
DO YOU REALLY THINK ...
... THOSE PUNY NEEDLES WILL WORK ON ME !?
GO (FWOOM)

GOU (WOOM)
CRUSH!!
GU (CLENCH)
!?

THANKS FOR BUYING ME SOME TIME!
NOW STEP ASIDE!
HERE WE GO, NA-NAMI!!
KUH!!

DON'T HATE ME IF YOU DIE FROM THIS!!
GO
GOWOW
ONI-GOROSHI-STYLE SPECIAL ATTACK...
...SEVENTH MOON BLAST!

GARA (CLNK)
YOU TOLD ME NOT TO KILL HER, BUT YOU SEEM TO BE OUT TO KILL HER YOURSELF.
SHUUU (FSHHH)
FUU (HAAA)
...NO MATTER HOW POWERFUL...
IF SHE WAS AN AVERAGE DEMON, NOT A SHRED OF TAINT WOULD REMAIN.
VU... (VWM...)
FURA... (WOBBLE...)
WHY...YOU...
HOW...DARE...YOU...

DOSA...
(THUD...)
GURA...
(WOBBLE...)
FUU
(SIGH)

WILL YOU KILL NANAMI AND REPORT THIS TO THE DIVINE ENFORCERS?
SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
ABOUT WHAT?
BECAUSE SHE IS NOT A DEMON.
WHY'S THAT?
...THAT WAS MY ORIGINAL PLAN. BUT THE CIRCUM-STANCES HAVE CHANGED.

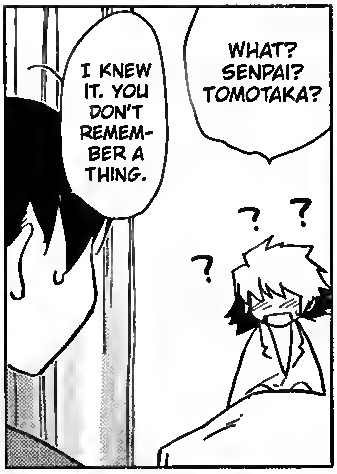
...SO YOU NOTICED.
YES.
MAGIC WIELDERS ARE SENSITIVE TO THIS TYPE OF THING.
SHE IS NOT TAINTED.
DEMONS PHYSICALLY MANIFEST WHEN HUMAN BEINGS OR ANIMALS ARE TRANSFORMED BY TAINT.
EVEN IF SOMETHING WAS BORN WITH POWER, THAT DOES NOT CHANGE.
NNH... NNH...
IN THAT SENSE, SHE IS NOT A DEMON.
THOUGH, IF YOU CONSIDER THE REVERSE, ALL THREE OF US COULD BE SAID TO BE DEMONIC.
WHAT IS SHE?
THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO KNOW.

WHAT IS THIS POWER THAT SHE HAS...?
♪
LALIHOO!!♪
BANG

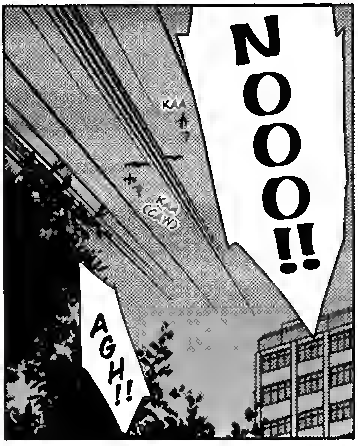
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU TODAY? YOU'RE CHEERY.
HUH?
IT'S ONLY YOU, HANGY? WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS?
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE THAT HAS ANY FREE TIME.
THE REST OF US HAVE A TON OF STUFF TO DO.
NO FUN! AND AFTER I FINALLY FOUND LELIKA-CHAN AND EVERY-THING.
WHAT!? WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY!?
HUH? I SAID I FOUND LELIKA-CHAN...
LELIKA!?
LELIKA KANNA-ZUKI OF "UZUME"!?
YOU'RE NOT JOKING!?
!!

I SEE... LOOKS LIKE LUCK'S FINALLY COME MY WAY.
HEH HEH ...
IT'S NO JOKE.
I CAN FINALLY SEE LELIKA-CHAN'S AURA AFTER SIXTEEN YEARS...
...SO I WANTED TO TELL EVERY-ONE...
TELL ME WHERE SHE IS RIGHT NOW.
'KAY, BUT ...
AND ANOTHER THING, DON'T TELL THE OTHERS ABOUT THIS, GOT IT?
EHH?
GOT IT!?

KUSHIMIYA, I AM SORRY. I WAS MISTAKEN.
TO MAKE A LONG STORY SHORT... YOUR POWERS CAME OUT AGAIN.

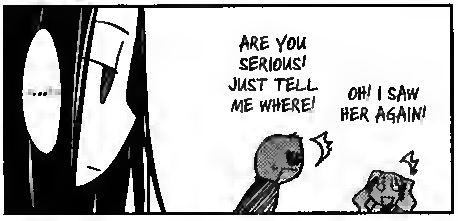

I KNEW IT. YOU DON'T REMEMBER A THING.
WHAT? SENPAI? TOMOTAKA?
? ? ?

HEY.
YOU GOT UP.
HOW DO YOU FEEL?

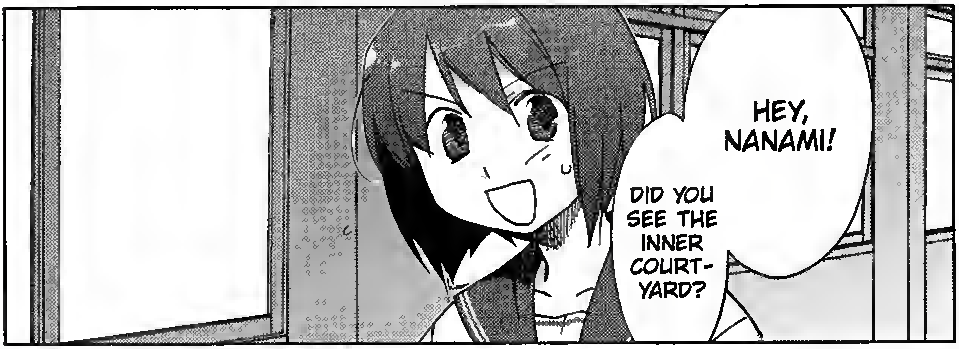

NOOO!!
KA
KA
GO
HO
AGH!!

OH...
SORRY...

MY POWER—
HUH?
WHAT HAPPENED TO MY CLOTHING?

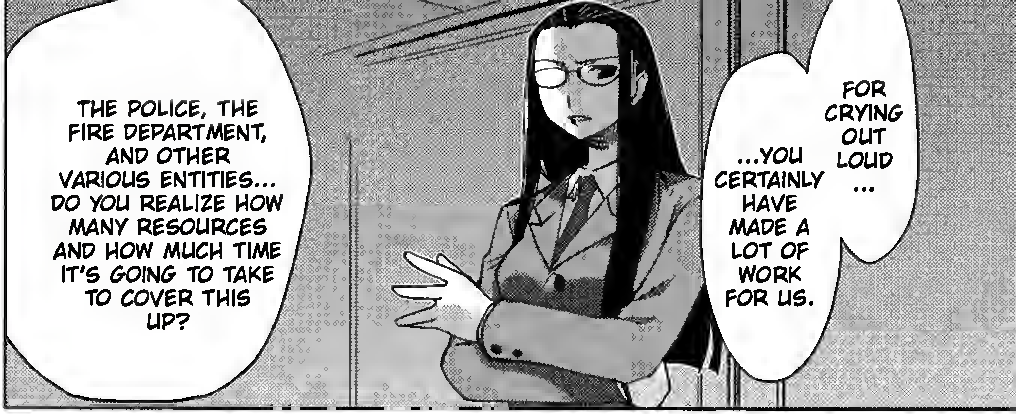

...
ARE YOU SERIOUS! JUST TELL ME WHERE!
OH! I SAW HER AGAIN!

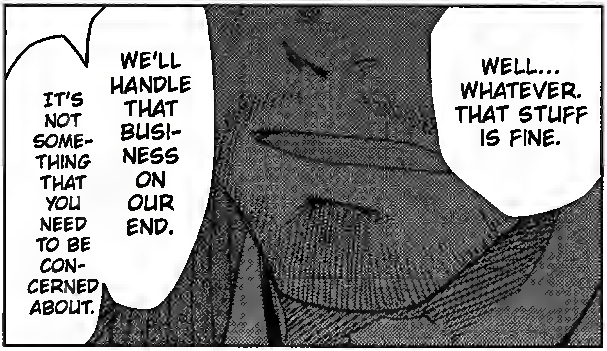
鬼薙
オニナギ
1
ONINAGI
AKIRA ISHIDA

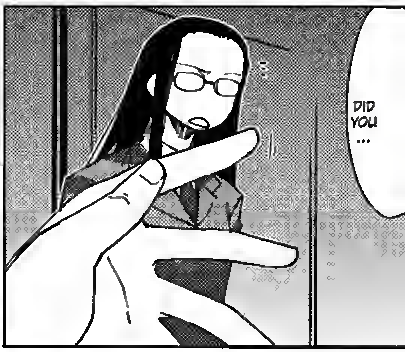

HEY, NANAMI!
DID YOU SEE THE INNER COURT-YARD?

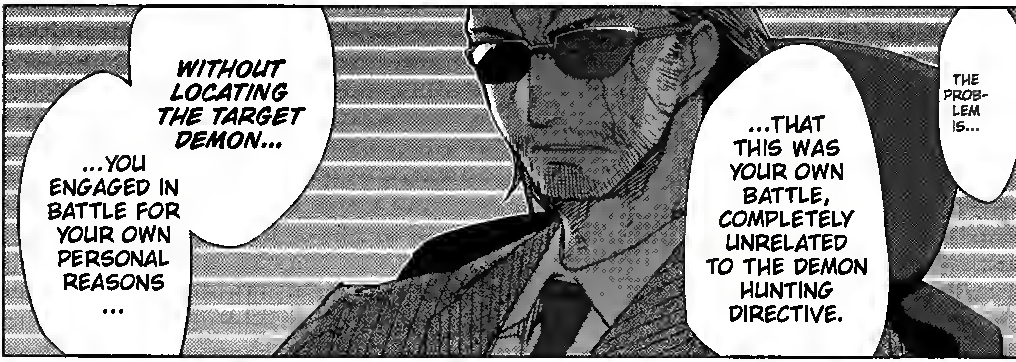
THEY WERE SAYING IT WAS A GAS EXPLOSION OR SOMETHING, BUT IT WASN'T ANYTHING LIKE THAT!
I'LL BET IT WAS AN UNEX-PLODED BOMB OR SOME-THING ...
OHH?

OH... YEAH, KINDA ...
I SAW IT BEFORE THEY PUT UP THE BLUE TARP!
IT WAS AMAZ-ING!


THE POLICE, THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND OTHER VARIOUS ENTITIES... DO YOU REALIZE HOW MANY RESOURCES AND HOW MUCH TIME IT'S GOING TO TAKE TO COVER THIS UP?
...YOU CERTAINLY HAVE MADE A LOT OF WORK FOR US.
FOR CRYING OUT LOUD ...


IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT YOU NEED TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT.
WE'LL HANDLE THAT BUSINESS ON OUR END.
WELL... WHATEVER. THAT STUFF IS FINE.

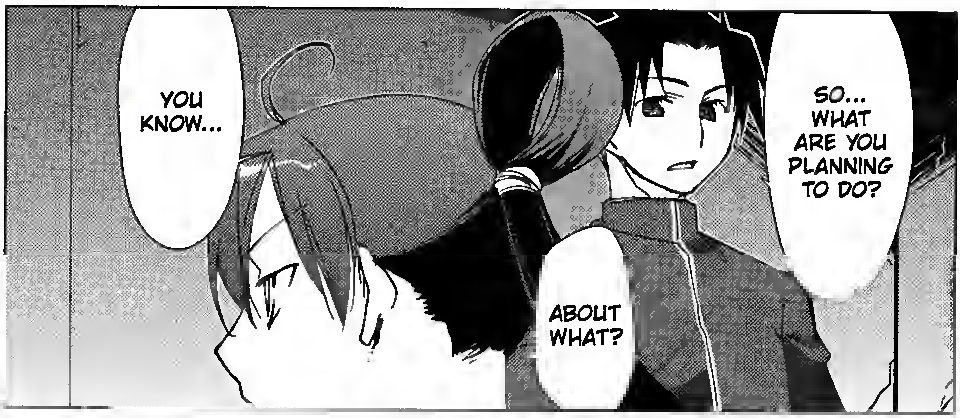

DID YOU ...

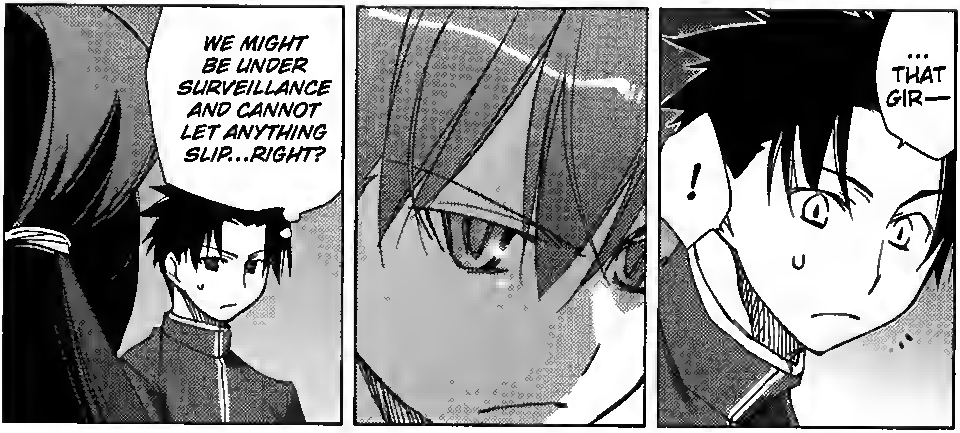

...YOU ENGAGED IN BATTLE FOR YOUR OWN PERSONAL REASONS ...
WITHOUT LOCATING THE TARGET DEMON...
...THAT THIS WAS YOUR OWN BATTLE, COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO THE DEMON HUNTING DIRECTIVE.
THE PROBLEM IS...

THAT'S YOUR STORY, YEAH?

YES.
THAT IS COR-RECT.
.....
ACT FOUR.

-SIGH-
ガコォ
GAKOON (CLANK)

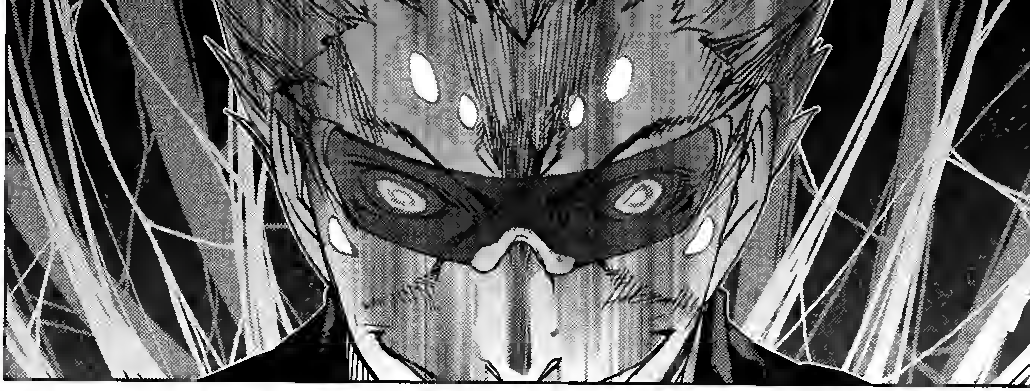

YOU KNOW...
SO... WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO?
ABOUT WHAT?


WE MIGHT BE UNDER SURVEILLANCE AND CANNOT LET ANYTHING SLIP...RIGHT?
...THAT GIR—
!

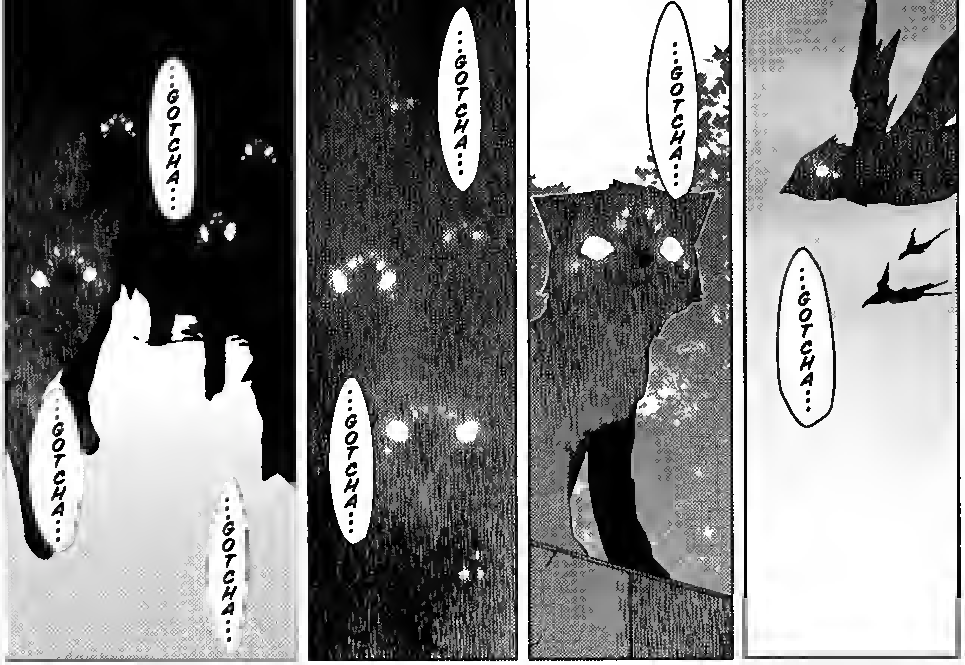
I'VE NEVER BEEN WRONG... WITH THESE HUNCHES!
SOMETHING'S GOING TO HAPPEN IN THE CITY...
BURU SHIVER
ARE YOU... COLD? IF YOU WOULD LIKE, I CAN LEND YOU MY JACKET...
THAT'S NOT IT!!
I HAVE A REALLY BAD FEELING...
...SOMETHING... TERRIBLE IS...

SEE YOU TOMORROW!
BYE!
I CAN'T BELIEVE I HAVE THESE STRANGE POWERS...
HOW'D THIS ALL HAPPEN...?
=SIGH=
PLUS, SANJOUIN-SENPAI ISN'T AT SCHOOL TODAY...
AND TOMOTAKA ISN'T PICKING UP THE PHONE...
WILL SOMEONE EXPLAIN ALL THIS TO ME ALREADY?
...HM?

.....
SEEMS LIKE IT GOT QUIET ALL OF A SUD-DEN...
?
NO CARS OR PEOPLE EVEN...
!
OH, BUT THERE'S A DOG!
HO (WHEW)
HERE, DOGGIE!
COME HERE!!
...GOTCHA...



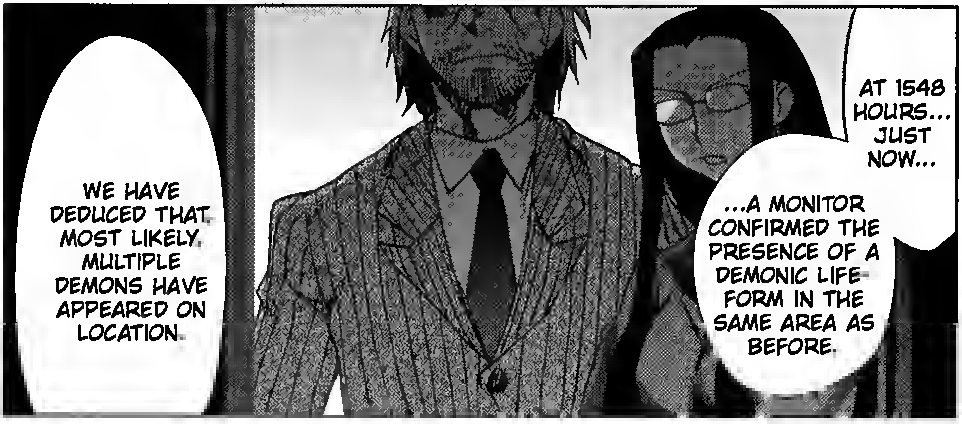
...I'VE GOTCHA NOW.


...GOTCHA...
...GOTCHA...
...GOTCHA...
...GOTCHA...
...GOTCHA...
...GOTCHA...

...GOTCHA...
...GOTCHA...
...GOTCHA...

...EEK!!

BAN
(SLAM...)

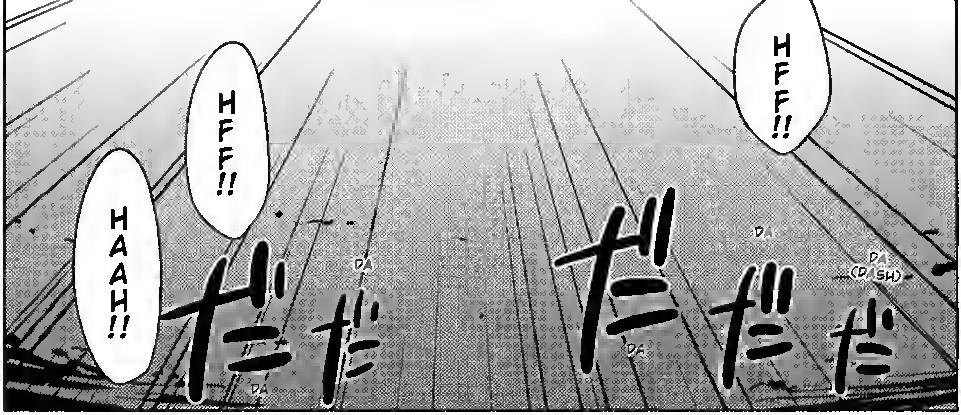

AT 1548 HOURS... JUST NOW...
...A MONITOR CONFIRMED THE PRESENCE OF A DEMONIC LIFE-FORM IN THE SAME AREA AS BEFORE.
WE HAVE DEDUCED THAT, MOST LIKELY, MULTIPLE DEMONS HAVE APPEARED ON LOCATION.

YOUR HUNCH... WAS ACCURATE.
I TOLD YOU.
I'VE NEVER BEEN WRONG.

BASICALLY, IT'S YOUR CHANCE FOR REDEMPTION.
WILL YOU TAKE IT?
HYU (TOSS)

OF COURSE.
KYU (TUG)

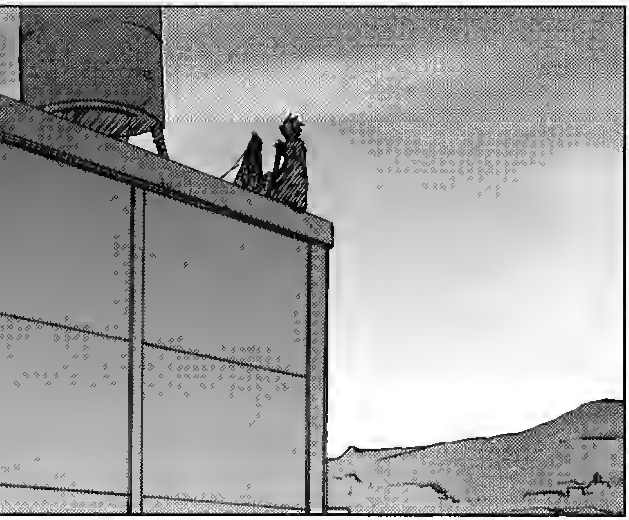
DON'T ASK UN-NECESSARY QUESTIONS WHEN YOU ALREADY KNOW THE ANSWER.
CHARI... (CLICK...)

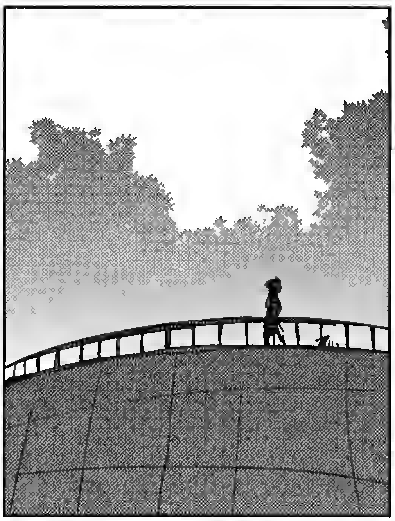

HFF!!
HFF!!
HAAH!!
DA
DA
DA

OH!
TOMOTAKA AND EVERY-ONE WAS SAYING THAT I HAVE SOME KIND OF POWER...
I WONDER IF IT'LL SHOW UP WHEN I'M IN A PINCH LIKE THIS?
HAAH!!
KA (VWAH)
DIDN'T THINK SO!!
PAN

KI...
KI KI...
PISHI (PTCH)
MIKI... (MIWK...)
KI...
ZU (GZZ)
ZO (GOW)
ZO (GOW)
ZO (GOW)
EEP...!!
NOW... I'VE CAUGHT YOU...
...BUT... YOU LOOK DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I'D HEARD...
WELL, YOUR SCENT MATCHES FORTUNE'S DESCRIPTION...
GUESS WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE WON'T MATTER ONCE I EAT YOU...

EAT HER.
EAT HER.
EAT HER.





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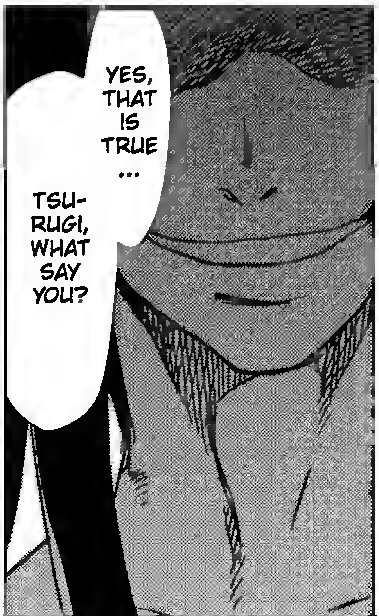
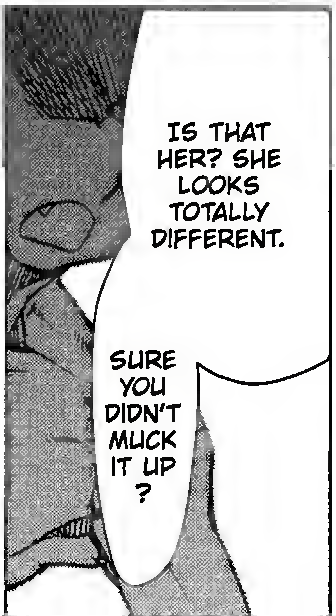
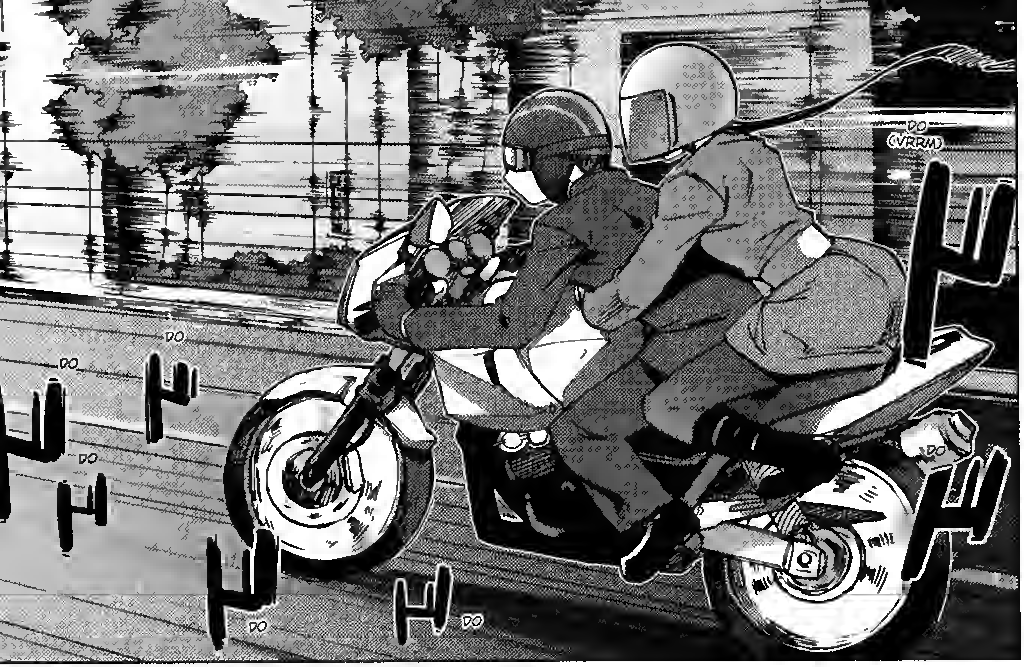

YES, THAT IS TRUE ...
TSU-RUGI, WHAT SAY YOU?


IS THAT HER? SHE LOOKS TOTALLY DIFFERENT.
SURE YOU DIDN'T MUCK IT UP ?

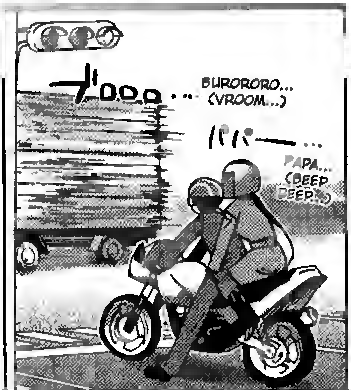
LET'S GO.
MORI. KUSABI.
YEAH, YEAH.

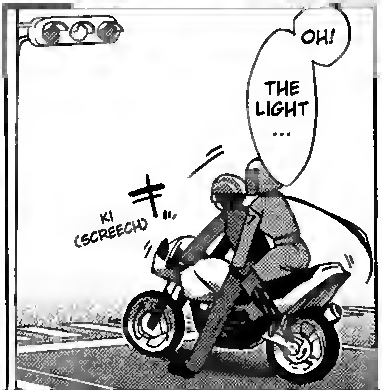
鬼薙
オニナギ
1
ONINAGI
AKIRA ISHIDA


DO
(VRRM)
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO

JUST HURRY! NANAMI IS IN DANGER!
YES!
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO

DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT "HURRY" MEANS !?
SORRY. IT IS JUST HABIT!


BURORORO... (VROOM...)
PAPA... (BEEP BEEP)


OH!
THE LIGHT ...
KI (SCREECH)

STAY ALIVE UNTIL I GET THERE, NANAMI!
AH...
UGH...

GA
(THWACK)
!
GA
(SWIPE)
GA
GA

ZA
CZSHA)
ACT FIVE.

EH?
HUH?
... WHO ARE YOU?
PIKU (TWITCH)
PIKU
I AM TSU-RUGI.
I'M KUSABI.
I AM MORI...
ZA
ZA
ZA
WE'LL TALK ...
...LATER!!
HUH?
LIM.
WHY DID YOU SAVE ...?

I'LL KILL 'EM.
WHAT'S WITH THESE GUYS...JUMPING OUT ALL OF A SUDDEN AND GETTIN' IN MY WAY...?
TCH!
ZA
ZA
ZA
ZA
ZA
ZA
ZA (ZSHA)
GY GO (GKSH)
BYUGA (YKSHA)
GO (GWHOW)

LOOK OUT!
...BUT YOU'RE GONNA NEED A LOT MORE THAN MUSCLES TO BEAT THE LIKES OF ME!!
GUGU... (GNNN...)
GA (GKA)!
LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVE SOME SKILL ...
!?
DOSHU (DSH)

I TOLD YOU ...
...THE NAME IS...
...TSURUGI!...

BASHU (DSH)
DORYU (VWPSH)
I AM SORRY TO INFORM YOU, BUT THIS IS JUST HOW IT IS. ♪
I...
...AM MORI.
WELL...
...YOU PROBABLY GET IT NOW, BUT...
BYU (VWSH)
...I'M...
...KUSABI.
WHY'M I THE ONLY SMALL ONE!?

...ARE NOT... PEO-PLE?
ZOKU... (CHILL...)
WHAT?
THESE PEO-PLE...
WELL, THAT SHOULD COME AS NO SURPRISE. THEY APPEAR TO BE MERE DEMONIC PAWNS, REGULAR ANIMALS THAT WERE FORCIBLY TRANS-FORMED.
THESE GUYS'RE PUSHOVERS, HUH?
GUSHA (BASH)
HYU (HWSH)
HYUN (VWOOSH)
GA
GA (WHACK)
WHY, YOU ...
.....!!
THE ONE CONTROLLING THEM IS AROUND HERE SOME-WHERE...

DON'T THINK YOU CAN TAKE ME LIGHTLY !!
YOU ASS-HOLES BETTER COME AT ME WITH ALL YA GOT!
ゴ GO (GWH)
ビキ BIKI (CRACK)
ピキ… PIKI… (PWK…)
ザ ZA… (ZSH…)
GA…
GICO (GGHOOH)

BYU (VWSH)
HYUN (WHOOSH)
!
NOW THINGS'RE GETTING INTER-ESTING!
OOH!!
KA
KA
KA
KA (SHUNK)
KA
KA
VU... (VWM...)
!?
WHAT IS THAT?

VUN (VWM)
THIS IS...A BARRIER ?
WAS THAT WHAT IT WAS CALLED?
THEN THAT MEANS ...
ZA (ZSH)

ZA
CZSHD

THIS LOT... ARE THEY... DEMONS?
IT SEEMS SO. FURTHER-MORE, THEY ARE QUITE POWERFUL.
WHO'RE THEY?
IT APPEARS THEY ARE ASSOCIATED WITH THE SLAYERS...
...THOSE WHO WOULD HUNT US.
.....

GU (GRIP)
KIN (KSHING)
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!!

SEN-PAI...
THESE... PEOPLE JUST SAVED ME.
IS THAT TRUE?
ARE THEY ACQUAIN-TANCES OF YOURS?
YUP.
THEY SAVED ME SEV-ERAL TIMES.
SO THERE'S NO REA-SON WHY YOU ALL SHOULD BE FIGHT-ING...
(VWOOSH)
!!
KYAAAAH!!
!!
I FORGOT!

I CAN HANDLE THIS MYSELF.
ZA CZSHD
GET READY, ONINAGI.
SO THIS IS THE TARGET. I'LL GO.
I DON'T CARE WHO DOES IT, JUST SAVE ME ALREADY!
WHAT'D YOU S..Y?

DIE!!
ZUA (ZWOAH)
BA
BA (VWOH)

THE TARGET ASIDE, I NEVER HEARD ABOUT HER GROUP-IES...
TCH! SHIT!
I BLEW IT...
.....!!
!!
SHU (ZIP)
BEFORE THE OTHERS FIND OUT...
...BUT...I'D BETTER GET THIS DONE FAST...
...SO ...
...WHO ARE YOU GUYS?

.....
HEY! I TOLD YOU THAT THEY SAVED ME!
YOU SHUT UP.
I KNOW YOU'RE NOT HUMAN.
DEPENDING ON YOUR ANSWER ...
CH (CLICK...)
ZA
ZA (ZM)
EH?
ZA (KNEEL)

IT'S BEEN, WHAT, 400 YEARS?
EH?
EH
OUR SINCEREST CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RESURRECTION.
...PLEDGE TO SERVE AND PROTECT YOU WITH OUR LIVES
WE THREE ...
WH—
WHAAAAAAT!?

鬼薙
オニナギ
1
ONINAGI
AKIRA ISHIDA

SO...
...ACCORDING TO THEM, YOU'RE THEIR MASTER... AND MAKER, IS THAT RIGHT?
...YEAH...

BUT THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT.
NANAMI IS VERIFIABLY ONLY FIFTEEN YEARS OLD.
AND YOU ALL WERE CREATED, WHAT...?
ABOUT 400 YEARS AGO.
WE WOULD LIKE TO CONFIRM THOSE FACTS AS WELL.
SO YOU TRULY ARE NOT THE PRINCESS KINKAN HERSELF?
WE JUST ASSUMED THAT THE REAL PRINCESS CAME BACK...
LIKE I SAID, I HAVE NO IDEA WHO THAT IS!
HM...
I'M ASSUMING THAT OUR ANCESTORS HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS, BUT ...
COULD YOU EXPLAIN IN FURTHER DETAIL?
VERY WELL.

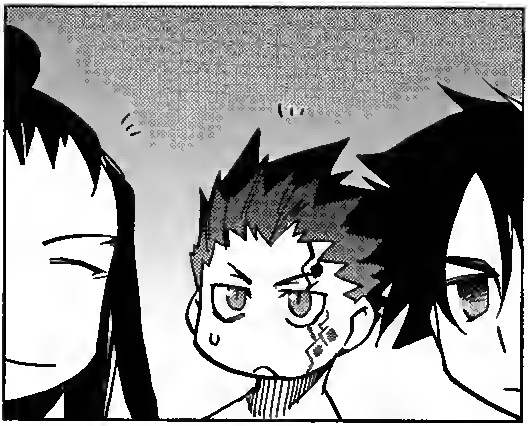
ACT SIX.

PRINCESS KINKAN.
BORN APPROXIMATELY 400 AND A DOZEN OR SO YEARS AGO AS THE DAUGHTER OF A WARLORD. SHE REALIZED HER DEMONIC ABILITIES AND CAME TO CONTROL THE LANDS BEHIND THE SCENES.
SHE WAS ABLE TO CREATE A MULTITUDE OF DEMONIC CREATURES FROM HER OWN MYSTICAL POWERS.
WITH HUNDREDS OF THESE CREATURES UNDER HER CONTROL, SHE EXTENDED HER POWERS OVER OTHER NEARBY DEMONS AND THEN CAST HER EYES TOWARD RULING THE WORLD.
THESE CREATURES COULD MOVE OF THEIR OWN WILL, BUT NOT WITHOUT THE PRINCESS'S POWERS.

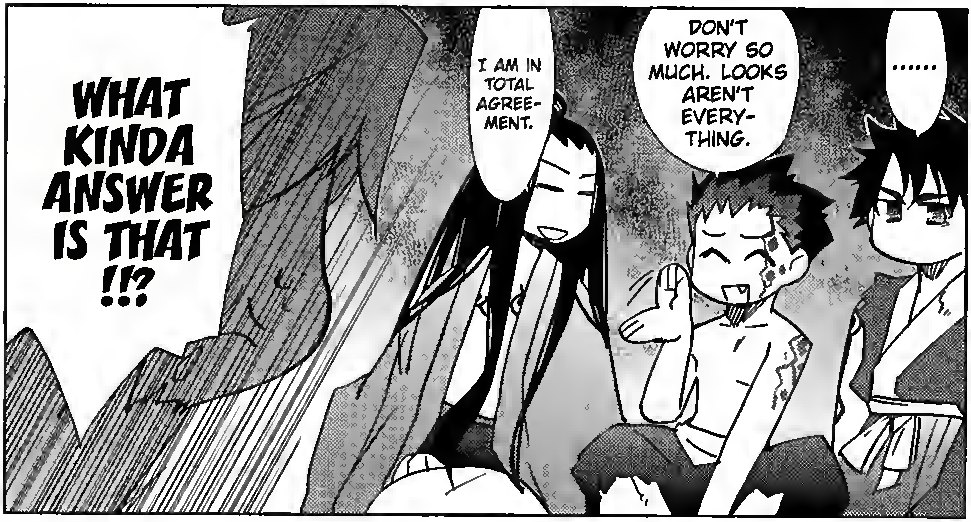
WE TOO ARE DEMONIC BEINGS CREATED BY PRINCESS KINKAN FOR USE IN BATTLE.

WE ARE BEINGS THAT CANNOT EXIST IF OUR MISTRESS PERISHES. WHILE IT WAS CLEAR THAT OUR MISTRESS WAS NOT DEAD, SOMETHING HAD DEFINITELY OCCURRED.
AND WE SUDDENLY SENSED A DRAMATIC DIP IN HER DEMONIC POWER.
THOUGH WE WERE FAITHFUL SERVANTS, ON ONE OCCASION, WE WERE ON A MISSION FAR AWAY FROM OUR MISTRESS.
A LONG TIME PASSED...
WITH NO OTHER OPTIONS, WE WENT INTO HIBER-NATION DEEP WITHIN THE MOUN-TAINS.
WE THOUGHT THAT, PERHAPS, SHE HAD GONE INTO VOLUNTARY HIDING OR BEEN SEALED AWAY BY SOME ENFORCER.

...AND WHEN WE WERE ABLE TO MOVE ABOUT ONCE MORE, WE THOUGHT THAT OUR PRINCESS KINKAN HAD RETURNED.
WELL...
...THAT'S ABOUT IT.



.....
SO...DO I LOOK LIKE PRINCESS KINKAN?


.....
DON'T WORRY SO MUCH. LOOKS AREN'T EVERY-THING.
I AM IN TOTAL AGREE-MENT.
WHAT KINDA ANSWER IS THAT !!?

ミキ…
DOKI…
(BADUM)
WHO CARES IF I CAN'T COMPARE TO THAT PRINCESS ANYWAY?
ズーン
ZUUN
(DOOM)
……
REALLY?
……IF I LOOK CLOSELY, I SEE TRACES OF HER IN YOU.
チャ
CHA…
(CHK…)

I HAVE NO QUALMS ABOUT KILLING YOU RIGHT HERE AND NOW.
THE PRIMARY MISSION OF US SLAYERS IS TO HUNT DEMONS LIKE YOU DOWN.
DON'T TRY ANYTHING FUNNY.

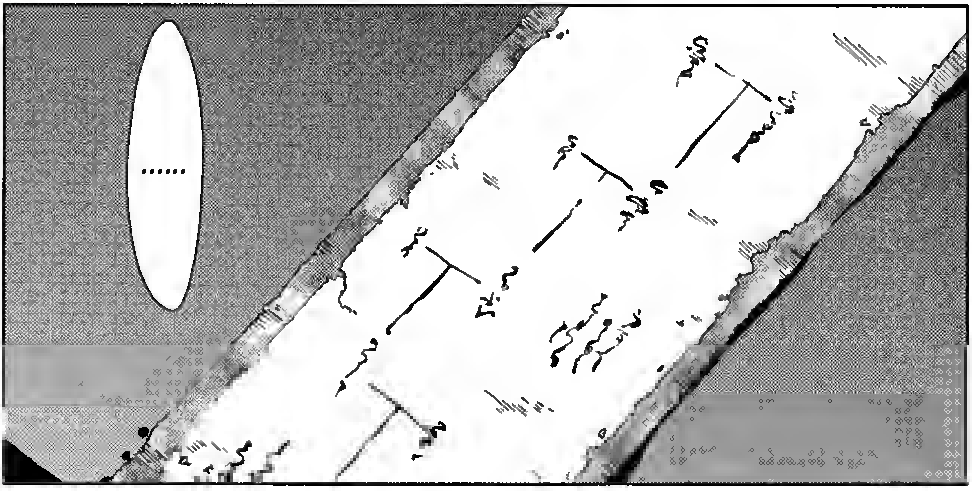
DO WHAT YOU WANT.
THAT IS, IF YOU CAN...
.....

AH!
HERE WE GO! HERE WE GO!
WHAT? I'M KIND OF BUSY RIGHT NOW.
I SAID STOP THAT!
DO STUFF LIKE THAT SOMEWHERE OTHER THAN INSIDE THIS HOUSE!!
GO (RUMBLE)
GO
GO
GO
GO
GO
GO

OUR FAMILY TREE.
IT'S WRITTEN HERE THAT, EIGHTEEN GENERATIONS AGO, AN ANCESTOR TOOK A WIFE NAMED "KIN."
WOULD THIS BE THAT PRINCESS OF YOURS?

IT REALLY DOES SAY THAT.
EARTH CRUSH!
WHA!?
LET ME SEE.
GIVE ME THAT.
MORE DETAIL ...!
WAIT!
CALM DOWN!

DEFI-
NITE-
LY...
YOU
THINK
SO?
BUT
ISN'T THIS
A LITTLE
STRANGE?
.....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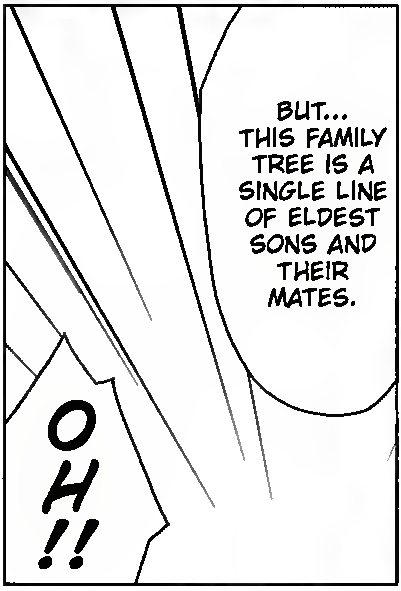

BUT...
THIS FAMILY
TREE IS A
SINGLE LINE
OF ELDEST
SONS AND
THEIR
MATES.
OH!!

WHICH
PART?
YOU
DON'T
SEE
IT?
USUALLY
FAMILY TREES
SPLIT AND
GROW WIDER.

ELDER... WERE ONLY THE ELDEST SONS WRITTEN INTO THE FAMILY TREE?
NO, I'VE NEVER HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT THAT.
SO THAT MEANS ...
...
NA-NAMI
...
...IF THIS FAMILY TREE IS CORRECT, YOU'RE THE FIRST GIRL BORN INTO THIS FAMILY IN OVER SIX HUNDRED YEARS.

I DO NOT KNOW WHAT IS CAUSING THE ABSENCE OF TAINT HOWEVER.
YES, IT SEEMS TO LIE IN THAT DIRECTION.
THEN THE REASON BEHIND HER POWER ...
THE DEMONIC POWERS OF HER ANCESTOR HAVE RESURFACED... INTO SOMETHING LIKE AN INHERITANCE?

...I BELIEVE THAT YOU SHOULD FEEL NO OBLIGATION TO SERVE HER.
THAT'S WHAT IT WOULD MEAN.
SO WHILE YOU MAY HAVE SERVED HER ANCESTOR LONG AGO...
...THIS GIRL IS A DISTANT DESCENDANT OF OUR MISTRESS AND INHERITED HER POWERS?
UM, SO IN OTHER WORDS...

YES.
BECAUSE IF SHE DIES, WE DIE ALSO.
OH...
... YEAH.
... NO.
...WE WILL PROTECT HER.

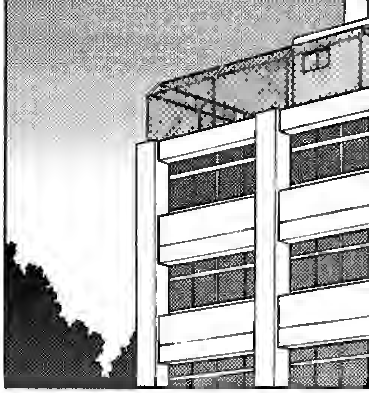
THAT AGAIN!
WHY ARE YOU SO QUICK TO FIGHT!?
SO WE'LL JUST KILL THIS LOT AND MAKE OUR REPORT.
THERE'S NOTHING COMPLICATED HERE AT ALL. OUR JOB IS TO HUNT DOWN DEMONS.
THIS IS A COMPLEX SITUATION TO REPORT TO THE DIVINE ENFORCERS.
WHAT SHALL WE DO?
I DO THIS JOB BECAUSE I CAN KILL THEM.
NA-NAMI.
IF YOUR TRUE SELF IS THAT OF A DEMON, I'LL KILL YOU RIGHT NOW.
YOU WANT TO KNOW?
I HATE DEMONS.

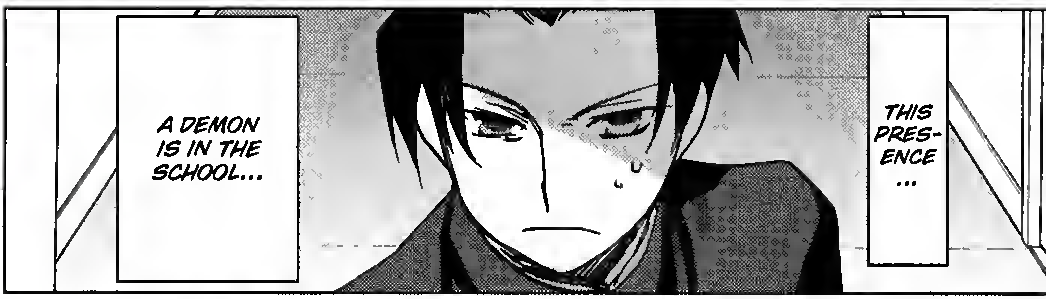
EH?
ME?
WHY DON'T WE HAVE THEIR "MISTRESS," NANAMI-SAN, DECIDE THEIR FATE?
WELL...
PAN (CLAP)
ぱん
UM ...
UH...
NEVER!! TO THINK, A YOUNG LADY AND A YOUNG MAN LIVING UNDER THE SAME ROOF ...!!
THEN WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO? HAVE THEM LIVE HERE IN YOUR HOUSE?
GRAND-PA...
THIS IS ALL STILL CONFUSING, BUT THEY REALLY DID SAVE ME...
I'D... RATHER YOU DIDN'T...KILL TSURUGI...AND THE OTHERS... I GUESS.

KA-ZUTO.
AND WE DO NEED TO LEARN ABOUT THIS MODERN ERA AS WELL.
THAT WILL NOT BE NECES-SARY.
WE WERE MADE TO BE SELF-SUFFICIENT.
NO...
...NOT A ONE.
...DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA OF THE MOTIVE BEHIND THAT SPIDER DEMON'S ATTACK ON NANAMI?
THEY'RE A PROB-LEM TOO, BUT...
SHE'LL BE FINE. THIS AREA WAS ORIGINALLY UNDER MY JURISDIC-TION...
...SO I WILL PROTECT NANAMI DURING THE DAY AND AT SCHOOL.
THAT THING WAS CLEARLY AFTER NANAMI.
IF WE ASSUME THAT THE REAL BODY IS ELSE-WHERE... IT WILL ATTACK AGAIN.

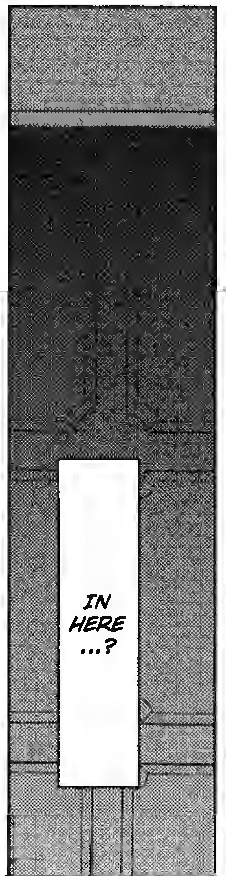
BUT ...
...THE ENEMY'S MOTIVES ARE UNKNOWN ...
FOR-TUNE
AREN'T YOU HIDING SOMETHING FROM US?
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!
I WANTED TO TELL BUT HANGY FORCED ME...!!
OHH.
I SEE. I SEE.
AH ...
UM ...
DOKI (BADUM)
DOKI

S... IS IT TRUE THAT YOU SENSED UZUME?
UH-HUH.
THAT WAS DEFINITELY LELI-KA-CHAN.
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO, STRENGTH?
WE'LL TAKE HER...
...OF COURSE
WHAT ABOUT HANGED MAN?
HE TRIED TO CUT US OUT OF THIS
I'M SURE HE KNEW THE CONSE-QUENCES
WE'VE WAITED FOR SIXTEEN YEARS.
THAT POWER IS OURS.



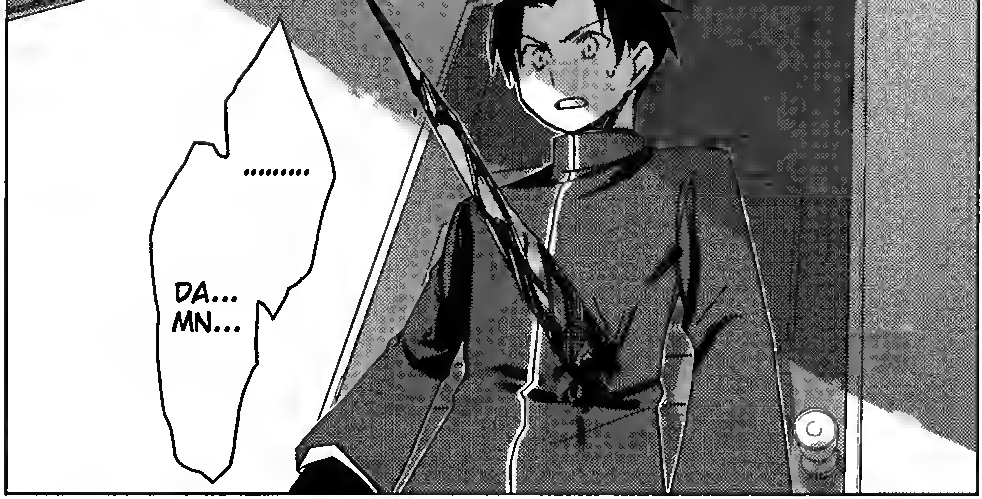

A DEMON IS IN THE SCHOOL...
THIS PRES-ENCE ...

カチャ
KACHA... (CLICK...)


IN HERE ...?

キーャ
KYU... (SLIP...)
THE ONE FROM YES-TER-DAY ...?
IF IT'S TSURUGI AND THE OTHERS... IT'S FINE... BUT...

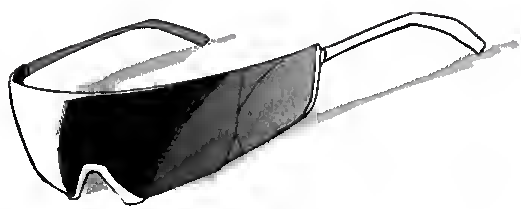
CLASS PRESI-DENT... KISA-RAGI...
!
YOU ARE ...?
キシ
KISHI... (KSH...)
キ
KI... (GLEAM...)
!!
DO (STAB)
IS SHE POS-SESSED ...?
OR IS SHE THE MAIN BODY ...?
カイ
KAGHA...


.....
DA...
MN...

NOW...
...I'VE GOT TO FINISH THIS BEFORE ALL THE OTHER PARTY CRASHERS GET HERE.

THIS HIDING MY PRESENCE THING IS TIRING...
...SERI-OUSLY.
MAKING ME GO TO ALL THIS TROUBLE ...

鬼薙
オニナギ
1
ONINAGI
AKIRA ISHIDA



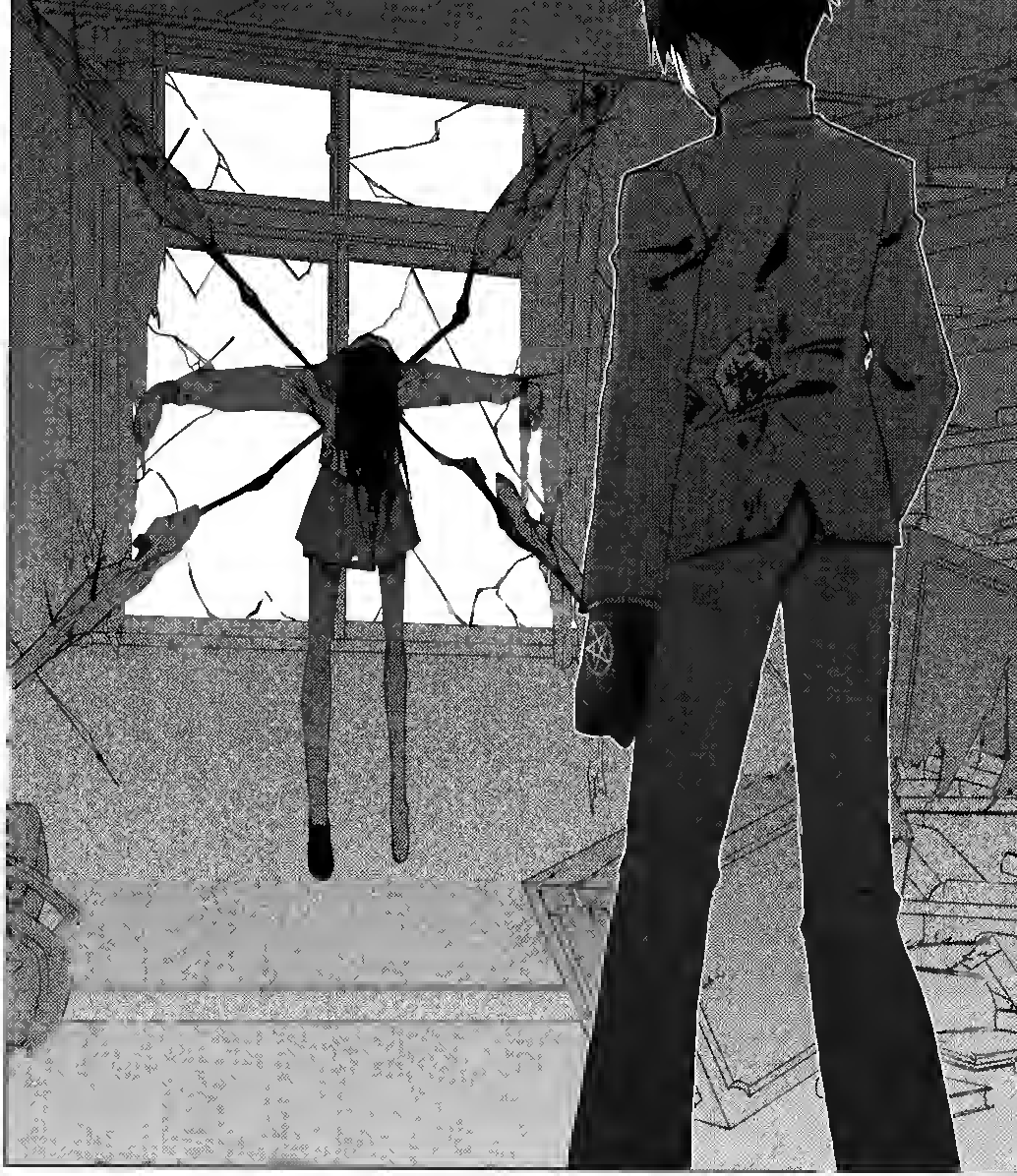
NOW THAT I'VE GOTTEN RID OF THE DIVINE ENFORCER PUNK...
...ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO GET MY HANDS ON THE UZUME GIRL.
WHA!?
ZU... (SLIDE...)
GICHI (GCH)
GISHI... (GSH...)

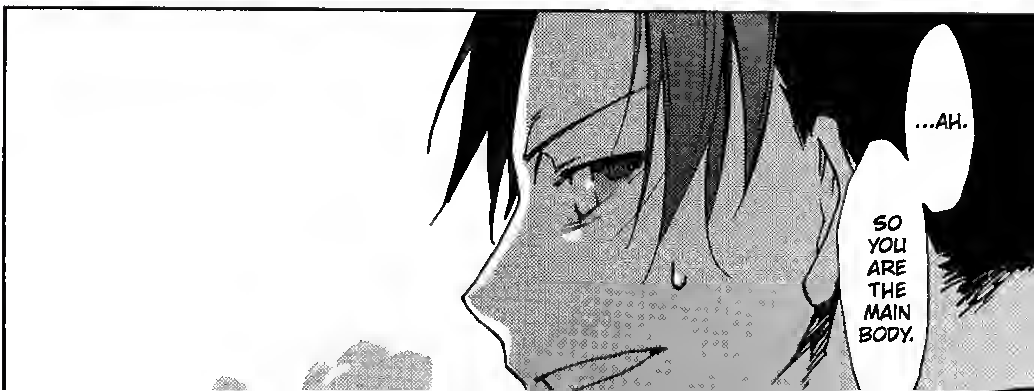
HAAH...
HAAH...
ZU...
(ZM...)
LIL...
(MM...)
BA
(SPURT)
BISHA
(SPLASH)
UGH!
KUH
...!
ZURU...
(ZLSH...)
HAAH...
HAAH...

ZU
ZU
ZU
(ZGGGGW)
ZU
BA
CVWSHD
ACT
SEVEN.

GABA (GWSH)
GO (SHO)
JYA (KSH)

...?
WHAT... WAS THAT... JUST NOW ...?
ZOKU... (SHIVER...)
MEKI
BEKI (MWK)
MEKI (CRK)
... TCH!
YOU'RE BEING A REAL PAIN IN THE...
BAKI
GYO (OW.KO)




...AH.
SO YOU ARE THE MAIN BODY.

THERE IS NO NEED TO HURRY. I WILL HAVE YOU PINNED AND MOUNTED LIKEWISE SOON ENOUGH.
ZU... (ZM...?)
WHY, YOU ...
...YOU SHOULD BE DEAD ...
GI (GSH GKSH)
YOU WISH!
GOU (GWOH)
BYU (VWSH)
BYU

I'M THE HUNTER.
YOU'RE THE PREY.
DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA, BRAT!

.....!!
GADA (VWP)
ZU (VWSH)
GO (GWOW)

THIS IS NOT GOOD... I AM AT A DISADVANTAGE IN A SMALL ROOM.
I MUST GET OUTSIDE SOMEHOW ...
KUH!
GYUO (VWP)
AGH!
HYUOO (FWSH)
IT'S USELESS.
JUST ACCEPT IT.
JIN (TWANG)
BIBI (TWANG)
CRUSH!!
GU (CLENCH)
STAY QUIET, AND...
!?

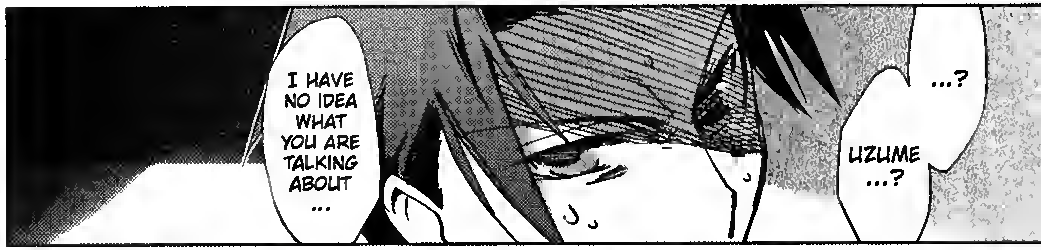
DON
(KABOOM)
?
GU...
(TUG...)
...KUH
!!
ZUKIN...
(ZING...)
TON...
(TM...)
GUO
(YANK)
DAMN!
!!
!!

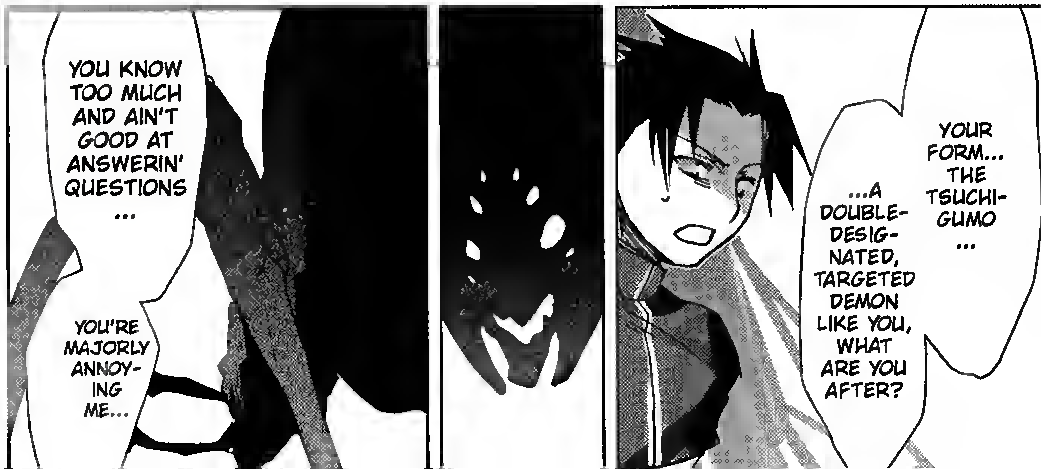
BUKI (CRACK)
GUH!!
BI (VVVPSH)
BISHU (BPSH)
G HYU (GSH)
I'VE GOT YOU NOW...
THAT'S WHATCHA GET FOR UNDER-ESTIMATING YOURS TRULY...

I AIN'T GONNA KILL YOU EASY.
BUT BEFORE I GET TO THAT LEMME ASK YOU A QUES-TION...

GUAH!!
MISHI... (CRUNCH...)

WHERE IS THE UZUME GIRL?
WERE YOU DIVINE ENFORCERS HIDING LELIKA KANNAZUKI FOR THE PAST SIXTEEN YEARS?


I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT ...
UZUME ...?
...?


YOU KNOW TOO MUCH AND AIN'T GOOD AT ANSWERIN' QUESTIONS ...
YOU'RE MAJORLY ANNOY-ING ME...
YOUR FORM... THE TSUCHI-GUMO ...
...A DOUBLE-DESIG-NATED, TARGETED DEMON LIKE YOU, WHAT ARE YOU AFTER?

KYAAAH!!
I'LL JUST RIP YOUR ARMS AND LEGS OFF ONE AT A TIME ...
...AND THEN EAT YOU.
WHERE SHOULD I START ?
S-SENPAI ...
KUSHI-MIYA-SAN...
WHY ARE YOU HERE ...?
I KNOW I PUT UP A BARRIER ...
EH ...?
I... JUST SENSED SOME-THING ODD... SO...

...I HAVE NO MORE USE FOR YOU.
.....
... WHICH MEANS ...
PERFECT. YOU CAME ALL ON YOUR OWN.
STO —!

OUR MISTRESS IS TRYING TO SAVE HIM...
...SO WE WILL SAVE HIM.
FOR REAL.
OH, MY.
I DO NOT THINK OUR AID IS REQUIRED?
TCH!
THE GROUPIES ARE HERE, HUH?
FINE, FINE.
THAT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS.

BUT ...
EH!?
KYAAH!
AH!
DO'YURURU
DYWOOM
IF MY TARGET AND YOUR MISTRESS IS THIS GIRL...
...THEN I'VE GOT THE UPPER HAND BY HOLDING HER HOSTAGE!

NOW THAT YOU GET THAT, LEAVE!
YOU KNOW WHAT'LL HAPPEN... IF YOU TRY ANYTHING FUNNY, RIGHT?
DON'T WORRY... I'LL MAKE GOOD USE OF YOUR MISTRESS'S POWERS.

WHA
—!?

GOGA
(GKHA)
AH.
HYU
(WHOOSH)
TA
(DASH)
D...
(DASH...)

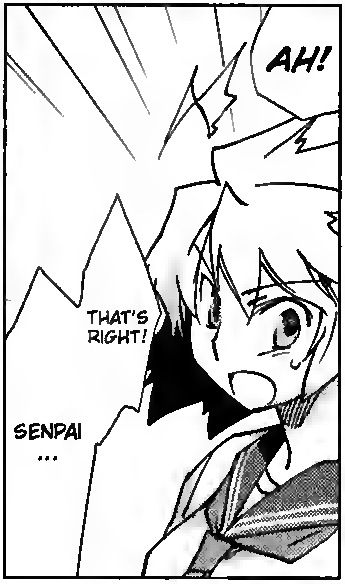
GAKA
(GKK)
SYUSHU
(SHWOOH)
TCH...

GA
(OKA)

YOU BETTER WATCH IT...
...OR I'LL DEVOUR EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU.

DID YOU HEAR WHAT HE SAID...?
DON'T WORRY.
AT THAT LEVEL, HE'S NO THREAT TO US, NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES HE TRIES.
YOU SAID IT.

...ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?
YOU SAVED ME...
THANK YOU. I HAD BETTER FIX THE BARRIER AND HIDE ALL TRACES OF THIS...
⇒COUGH⇐
FORGET THAT! GO GET THOSE INJURIES TREATED FIRST!!

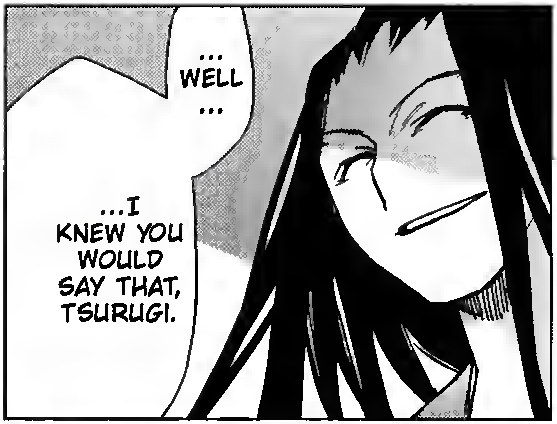

AH!
THAT'S RIGHT!
SENPAI ...

"GASP"
"RASP"
"RASP"
DAMMIT...
DAMMIT...
KILL 'EM ... I'LL KILL 'EM!
.....
HEY... YOU'RE A LIFE-SAVER!
GREAT TIMING ...
...STRENGTH!!

I'VE FOUND... UZUME... LELIKA KANNAZUKI.
I TRIED TO TAKE HER, BUT...
...THAT ENFORCER AND THOSE GROUPIE DEMONS GOT IN MY WAY.
ARE THE OTHERS HERE?
WE'D BETTER HURRY AND GRA—
...HER... OR ELSE...
!?
YOU'RE RIGHT... WE'LL BE SURE TO GET HER.
BUT...
...WE DON'T NEED THE SELFISH FOOL WHO TRIED TO TAKE HER ALL FOR HIMSELF, DO WE?
W... WAIT ...!!
GUSHA (CRUSH)

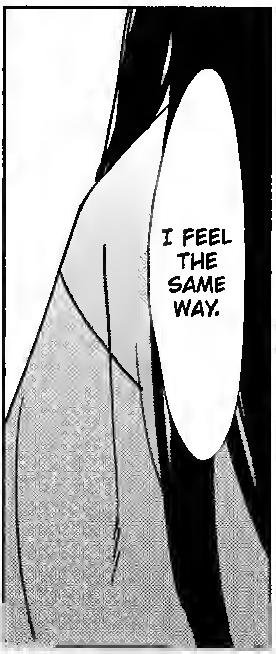
SENPAI... YOU SHOULDN'T PUSH YOURSELF SO HARD...
I AM FINE.
I MUST DO AT LEAST THE MINIMUM CLEAN-UP.
THE CLASS PRESIDENT...
SHE WAS TURNED INTO A DEMON ...?
...CAN SHE BE SAVED?
WELL, SINCE IT HAS NOT BEEN VERY LONG SINCE SHE WAS TURNED...
...MY NEEDLE TREATMENT SHOULD WORK IN TIME.
SFX KAKAKAGA (SHNK SHNK)
UWAH!
SHUU... (SHWW...)
I'M SO GLAD.

...WHAT DO YOU THINK OF OUR NEW MISTRESS?
WELL, I THINK SHE'S OKAY!
DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A RUTHLESS SLAVE DRIVER LIKE THE LAST ONE.


... WELL ...
...I KNEW YOU WOULD SAY THAT, TSURUGI.

OUR MISTRESS IS OUR MISTRESS.
I WILL PROTECT HER WITH MY ENTIRE BODY AND SOUL.

OUR MISTRESS IS OUR MISTRESS.
WHAT I MUST DO HAS NOT CHANGED, AFTER ALL.


I FEEL THE SAME WAY.

THEN WHAT ABOUT YOU, MORI?

# TRANSLATOR'S NOTES

*TITLE*
**ONINAGI**
The *oni* in the title (and the name of the sword) can be read as "demon."

*PAGE 3*
**Nonomi Kushimiyo**
Nonomi is written with the kanji for "seven" and "shrine maiden." Kushimiyo is comprised of the kanji for "comb" and "shrine."

***Senpai***
Upperclassmen.

*PAGE 6*
**Onigoroshi**
A rough translation of Tamataka's last name is "demon slayer."

*PAGE 20*
**Jewel of Yoesu**
A bead from the necklace that Tomotako wears around her neck. She uses the beads to dispel demonic powers. The beads of her necklace are shaped like those found in the *yasakani no magatama*, one of the *sanshu no jingi* ("Three Sacred Treasures" of Japan). These holy relics are used in the ceremony for imperial ascension and, as such, their locations have never officially been confirmed by the Japanese government. However, it is believed that the necklace is housed at the Imperial Palace in Yoesu (a neighborhood of Tokyo). The *sanshu no jingi* also play a vital role in Japanese mythology, most notably in the legend of Ameterosu, the sun goddess. In this story, they are used by the gods to lure Ameterosu out of a cave in order to restore light to the earth.

*PAGE 82*
**Uzume**
Refers to the goddess of mirth and dawn, Ame-no-Uzume-no-Mikoto. In the tale of Ameterosu, she is the goddess whose lewd dancing puts into motion the plan of luring the sun goddess out of her cave.

*PAGE 101*
**Tsurugi**
A word for "sword," this demon's name is derived from the weapon into which his arms morph during battle.

*PAGE 102*
**Kusobi**
Also named for his weapons, this demon's name means "wedge." (Take a close look at his fists!)

**Mori**
Like his fellow demons, the last of Princess Kinkan's servants is also named for his weapons in battle; note the "lance"-style attack he uses with his hair.

*PAGE 132*
**Princess Kinkon**
The kanji in the princess's name can be read as "fairy ring," a naturally-occurring ring of mushrooms. In Western folklore, a fairy ring is said to be created from the dancing of fairies and is sometimes regarded as a gateway into the realm of the supernatural.

*PAGE 164*
**Tsuchigumo**
A common name for a breed of ground spider found in Japan (*Atypus karschi*), the *tsuchigumo* often appears in Japanese folklore and pop culture as a giant spider. Perhaps the best known legend about the tsuchigumo involves Minamoto no Raikou, a warrior of noble birth from the Heian period (approx. 794 to 1185 A.D.) of Japanese history who was known as "the Demon Slayer."

# ONINAGI ①

AKIRA ISHIDA

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